SPAWN
SHADOWS OF SPAWN
VOL. 3

Chapter 3

SHADOWS OF SPAWN VOL. 3

STORY & ART
JUZO TOKORO

LETTERING
AVALON STUDIOS

COVER
JUZO TOKORO
BRIAN HABERLIN

TRANSLATION
FRANCIS TAKENAGA

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JUZO TOKORO
PRESENTS
SHADOWS OF
SPAWN
3

SHADOWS OF SPAWN CHARACTERS

SPAWN
スポーン/KK

KEN KUROSAWA, ONE-TIME GANGSTER-FOR-HIRE, RETURNED FROM THE DEAD TO FULFILL A PROMISE TO HIS SISTER. NOW, HE FIGHTS TO SAVE HUMANITY ITSELF.

MARIKO KUROSAWA
マリコ

HOLLYWOOD'S NEWEST ACTION STAR SENSATION, SHE HAS ENEMIES OF WHOM SHE IS NOT AWARE, AND A DARK, GUARDIAN ANGEL TO WATCH OVER HER.

ZOMBIE SPAWN
ゾンビ・スポーン

CHEVEYO ("ZOMBIE") HAS BECOME A MENTOR TO KEN IN THE QUEST TO DEFEAT THEIR COMMON FOE AND SAVE THE WORLD FROM A GRISLY FATE.

MALEBOLGIA
メルボージャ

THE MASTER MANIPULATOR, MALEBOLGIA IS HELLBENT ON BRINGING ABOUT THE FINAL CONFLICT: ARMAGEDDON.

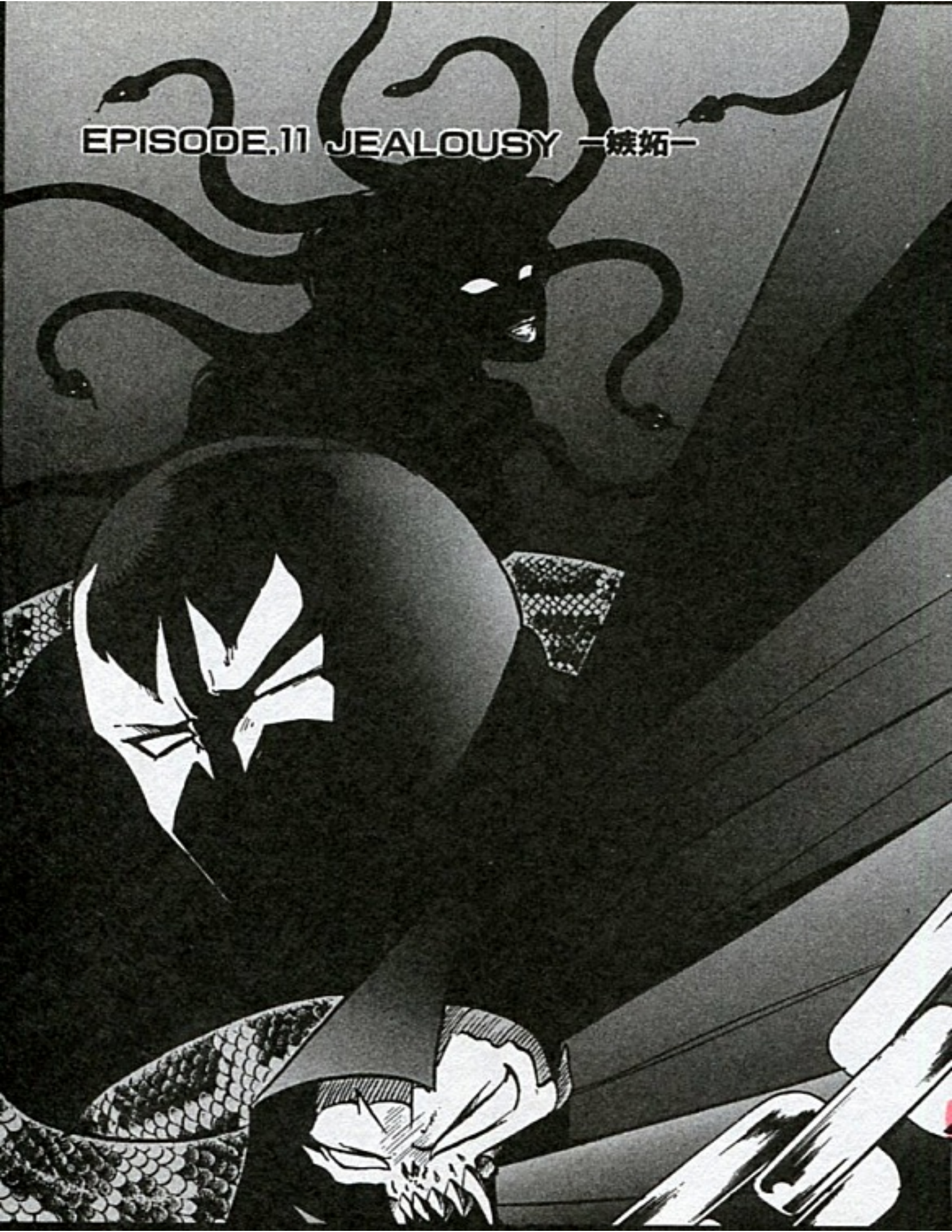
VIOLATOR
バイオレーター

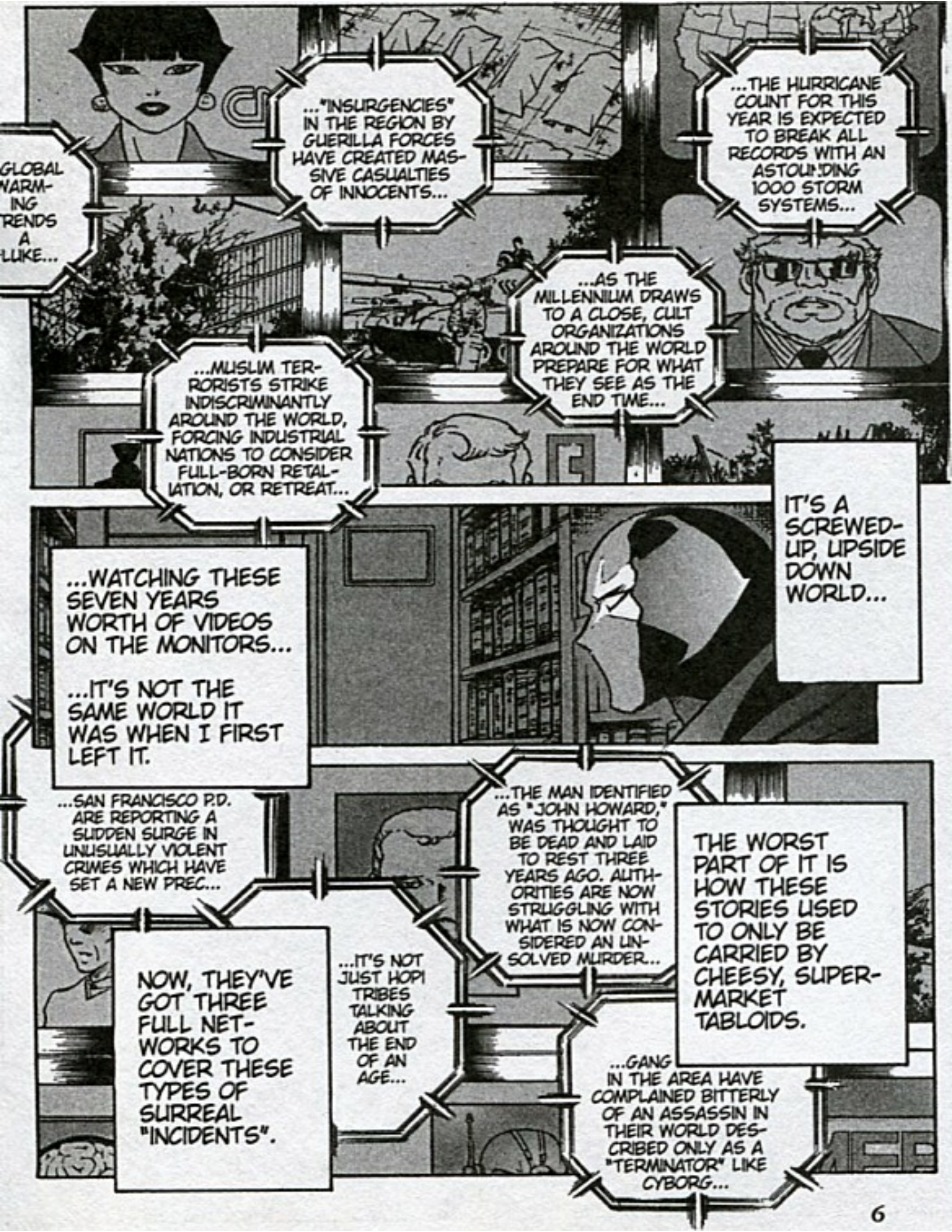
ONCE A SERVANT TO MALEBOLGIA, VIOLATOR NOW HAS SCHEMES OF HIS OWN TO PURSUE...

STORY

AFTER RETURNING FROM THE DEAD, ONLY TO FIND HIS REASON FOR DOING SO, MARIKO, IS NO LONGER IN NEED OF HIS PROTECTION, KEN IS COAXED BY VIOLATOR TO SEEK A SPAWN WARRIOR WHO HAS SUCCESSFULLY ELUDED MALEBOLGIA'S WRATH FOR MANY CENTURIES. THE INITIAL MEETING WITH THE "ZOMBIE SPAWN" (CHEVEYO) PROVED TO BE NEAR-FATAL FOR KEN, BUT IN THE END, HIS ADVANCED SKILL FOR A RELATIVELY NEW SPAWN COUPLED WITH THE SAMURAI'S SPIRIT CONVINCED CHEVEYO TO AT LEAST TRY AND TRAIN THE TENACIOUS YOUTH.

BUT INSTEAD OF THE "EASY ANSWER" KEN SOUGHT WITH WHICH TO DEFEAT MALEBOLGIA ONCE AND FOR ALL, HE FINDS THAT THE EVENTS ALREADY IN MOTION...INDEED, HIS EXISTENCE ITSELF, IS FAR MORE COMPLICATED THAN HE COULD HAVE EVER IMAGINED. WORSE, MARIKO'S LIFE REMAINED IN CONSTANT DANGER, OFTENTIMES WITHOUT HER KNOWLEDGE. SO CONTINUES THE BATTLE, BOTH WITHIN AND WITHOUT OF THIS SHADOW OF SPAWN!


EPISODE.11 JEALOUSY ―嫉妬―


GLOBAL WARMING TRENDS A LUKE...
...INSURGENCIES" IN THE REGION BY GUERILLA FORCES HAVE CREATED MASSIVE CASUALTIES OF INNOCENTS...
...THE HURRICANE COUNT FOR THIS YEAR IS EXPECTED TO BREAK ALL RECORDS WITH AN ASTOU!DING 1000 STORM SYSTEMS...
...AS THE MILLENNIUM DRAWS TO A CLOSE, CULT ORGANIZATIONS AROUND THE WORLD PREPARE FOR WHAT THEY SEE AS THE END TIME...
...MUSLIM TERRORISTS STRIKE INDISCRIMINANTLY AROUND THE WORLD, FORCING INDUSTRIAL NATIONS TO CONSIDER FULL-BORN RETALIATION, OR RETREAT...
IT'S A SCREWED-UP, UPSIDE DOWN WORLD...
...WATCHING THESE SEVEN YEARS WORTH OF VIDEOS ON THE MONITORS...
...IT'S NOT THE SAME WORLD IT WAS WHEN I FIRST LEFT IT.
...SAN FRANCISCO P.D. ARE REPORTING A SUDDEN SURGE IN UNUSUALLY VIOLENT CRIMES WHICH HAVE SET A NEW PREC...
...THE MAN IDENTIFIED AS "JOHN HOWARD," WAS THOUGHT TO BE DEAD AND LAID TO REST THREE YEARS AGO. AUTHORITIES ARE NOW STRUGGLING WITH WHAT IS NOW CONSIDERED AN UNSOLVED MURDER...
THE WORST PART OF IT IS HOW THESE STORIES USED TO ONLY BE CARRIED BY CHEESY, SUPERMARKET TABLOIDS.
NOW, THEY'VE GOT THREE FULL NETWORKS TO COVER THESE TYPES OF SURREAL "INCIDENTS".
...IT'S NOT JUST HOPI TRIBES TALKING ABOUT THE END OF AN AGE...
...GANG IN THE AREA HAVE COMPLAINED BITTERLY OF AN ASSASSIN IN THEIR WORLD DESCRIBED ONLY AS A "TERMINATOR" LIKE CYBORG...

THE "MERGING" OF REALITIES...
IS THIS WHAT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT?
SURPRISED THAT BEINGS LIKE US FIGHT TO SAVE A WORLD LIKE THIS?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
LOOK INTO OUR HISTORY AND YOU'LL FIND MOMENTS IN TIME WHERE THIS EVENT HAS TAKEN PLACE. EVERY CENTURY OR SO, THE SAME THING HAPPENS.
ABERRATIONS OF NATURE ARE THE ULTIMATE RESULT. COLLECTIVELY, HUMANKIND HAS REFERRED TO THEM SIMPLY AS, "*MONSTERS*."
THE TWO REALITIES MERGE...
...PSYCHOPLASM MEETS HUMAN FLESH...

ANGEL OR DEMON, IT'S ALL A MATTER OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S CORE BEING.

EXACTLY WHAT THEY'D BECOME WAS A MATTER OF THEIR SPIRITUAL LEANINGS. THE PSYCHOPLASM MERELY REFLECTED THAT IN THE FINAL CREATURE.

JUST A BLOB OF PSYCHO-PLASM.

SHE'S THE SAME THING AS WE ARE.

HOLD ON! ANGELS--

YOU MEAN EVEN--

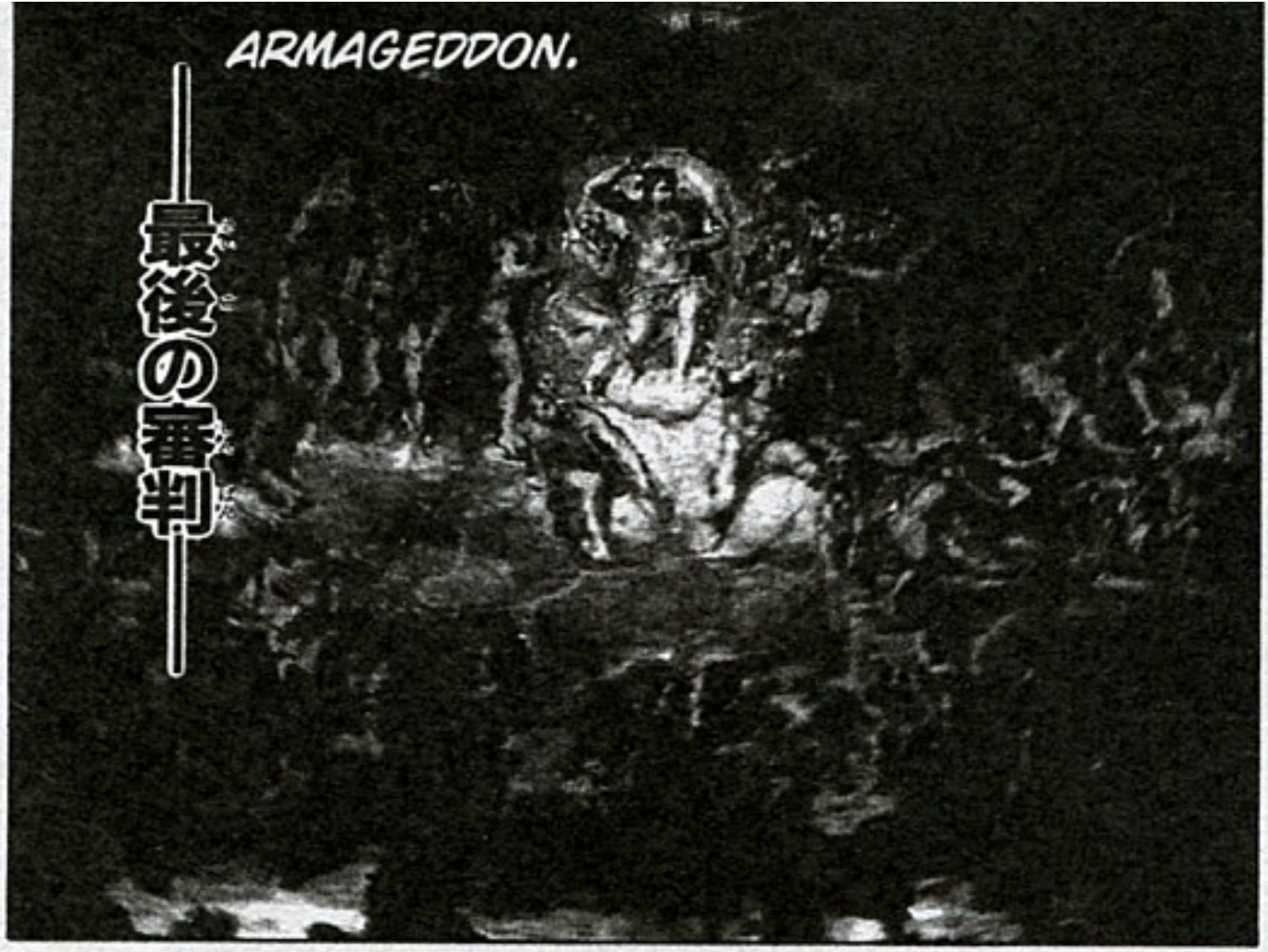
MIKAELA...?!

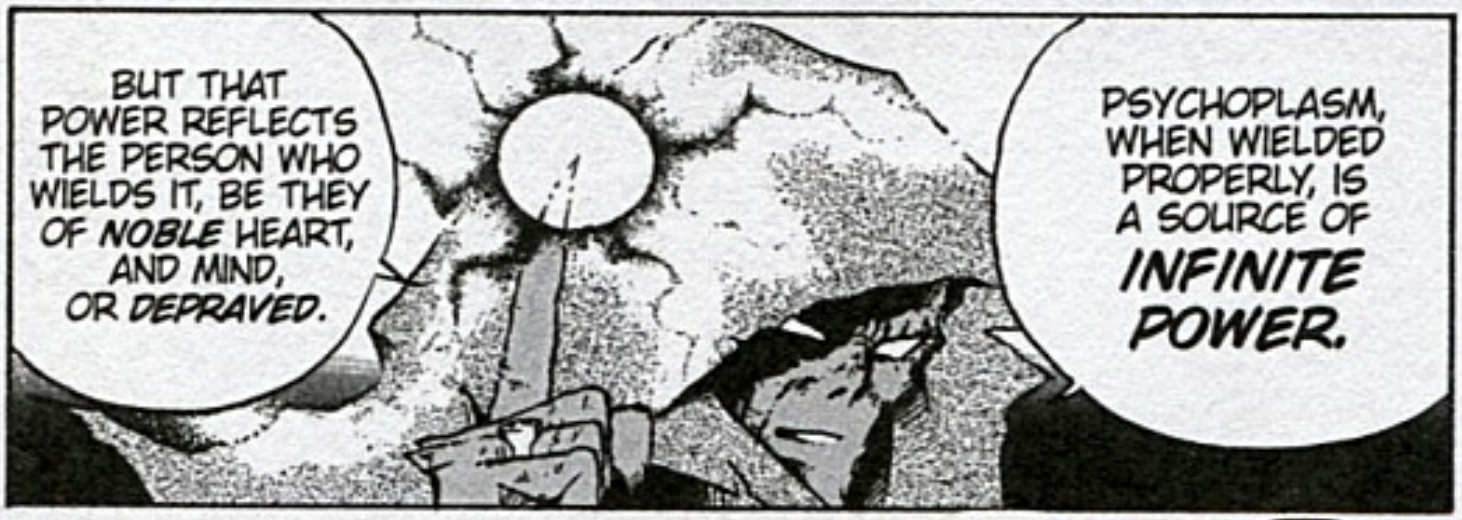
...ONE AND THE SAME...

DEVIL AND ANGEL...

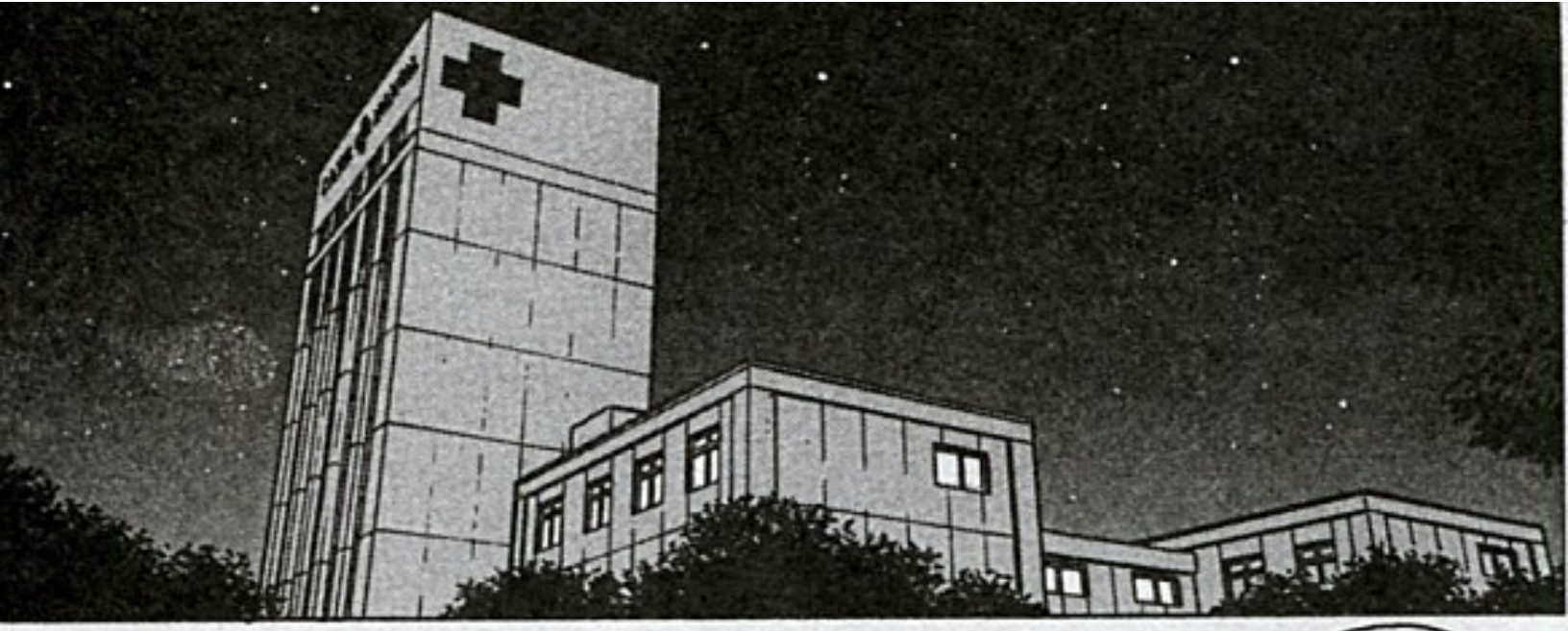
WHAT *IS* KNOWN IS THAT THE END RESULT IS THE *SPIRIT MADE FLESH.*

THE RENDERING OF THE PSYCHOPLASM IS A PHENOMENON THAT IS DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN. HOW IT MEASURES A HUMAN'S SOUL, A COMPLETE MYSTERY.


ARMAGEDDON.
最後の審判


BUT THAT POWER REFLECTS THE PERSON WHO WIELDS IT, BE THEY OF *NOBLE* HEART, AND MIND, OR *DEPRAVED*.
PSYCHOPLASM, WHEN WIELDED PROPERLY, IS A SOURCE OF *INFINITE POWER*.

...A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD.
AS WITH MOST THINGS...



HOW DOES A RATTLE-SNAKE GET INTO HER DRESSING ROOM?
STILL... WHAT COULD'VE HAPPENED?

WILL MARIKO REALLY BE OKAY?
YES. HELP WAS QUICK TO ARRIVE, SO SHE'S OUT OF ANY IMME-DIATE DANGER. SHE'S SLEEPING SOUNDLY IN I.C.U.

EVERYONE'S BEEN TRYING TO FIGURE THAT OUT SINCE THIS ALL HAPPENED...
NO-BODY KNOWS.

INTER-FERING LITTLE MANAGER GIRL...

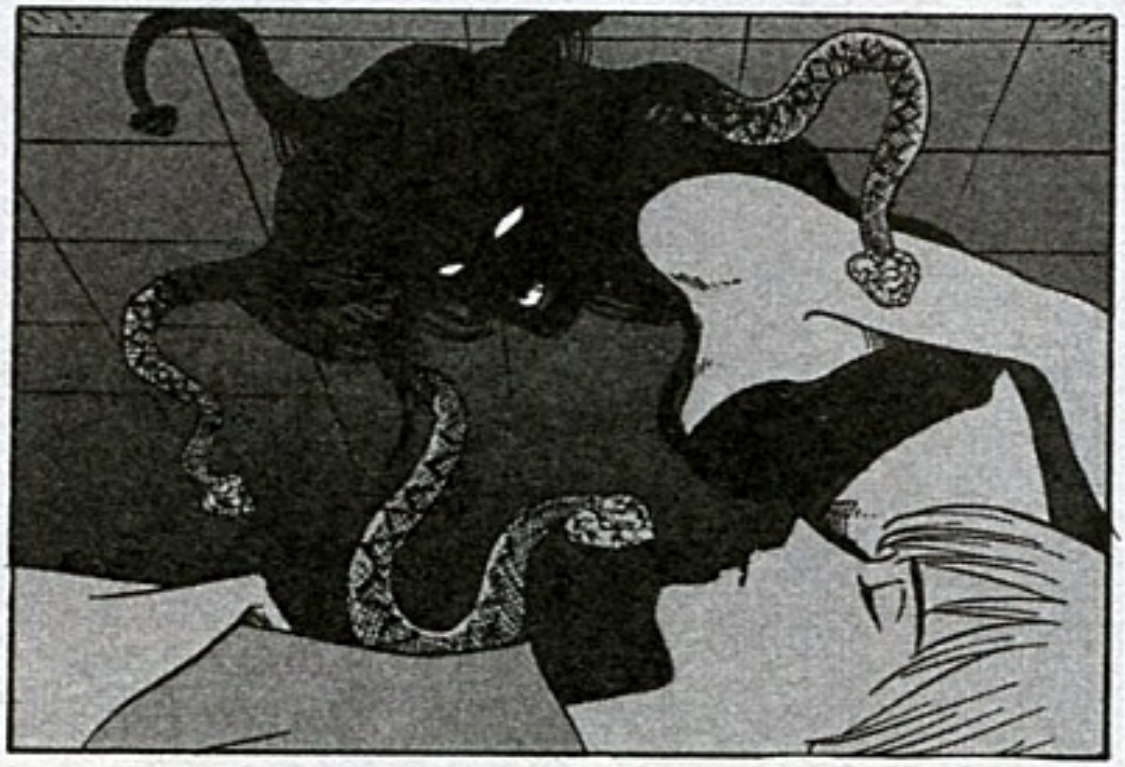
IF IT WASN'T FOR YOU, MARIKO MAY NOT BE WITH US, TODAY.
DON'T BEAT YOUR-SELF UP, CHRIS.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME, SIR. MARIKO IS MY RESPON-SIBILITY--

TO THINK SHE'S OUT OF HARM'S WAY IS A SERIOUS, SERIOUS MISTAKE!
BUT...
MARIKO.
ALL THE FATIGUE OF WORK CAN FINALLY BE RELIEVED, HEH?
HMM. RESTING SO PEACE-FULLY.

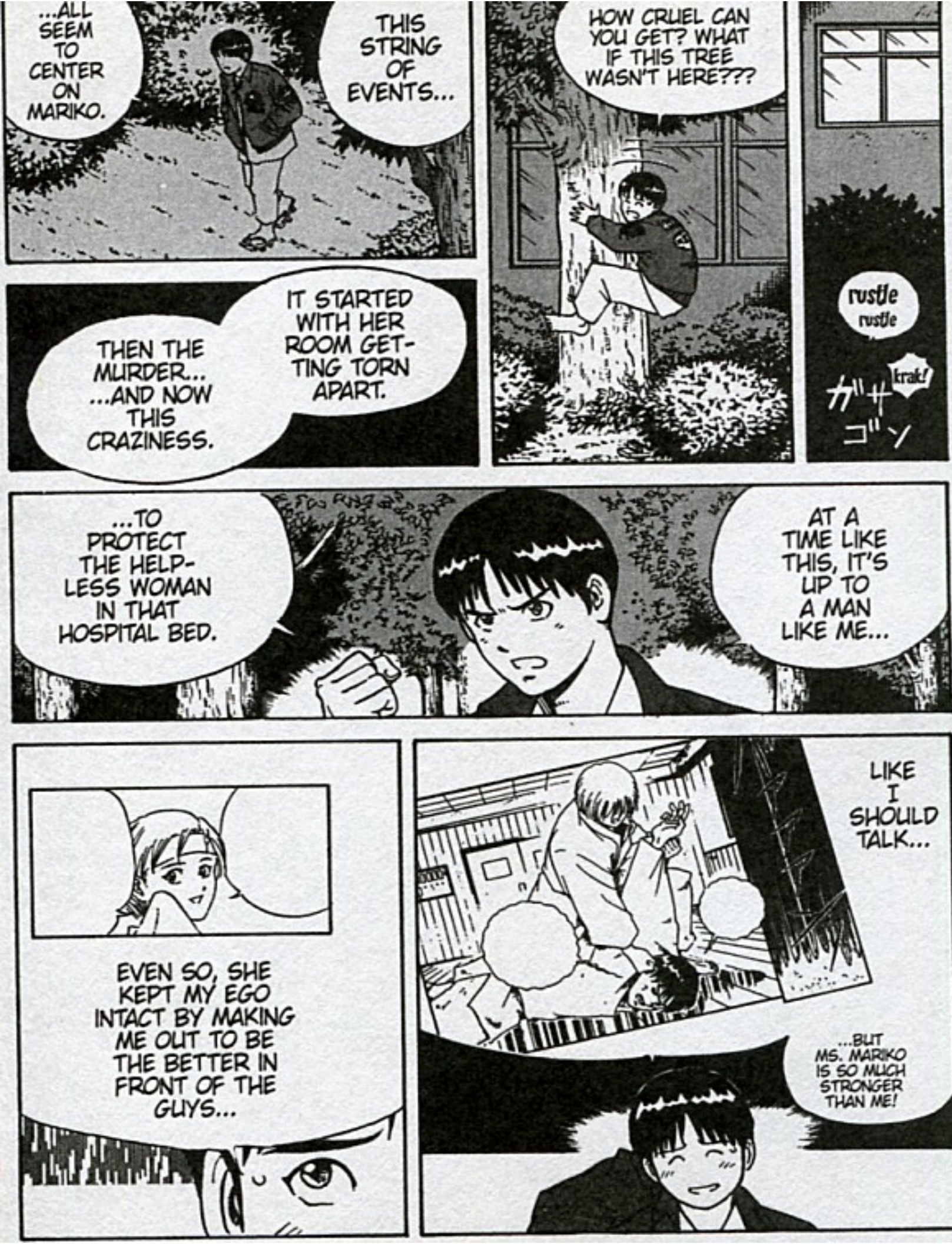
TOSHIO!
バン
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
BUT EVEN SLEEP-ING...
...SHE'S SO CUUUTE!
EH?
THANK GOOD-NESS IT WASN'T SERIOUS!
WHOO! WHAT A RELIEF!
RIGHT GUYS?!
...YOU KNOW. ON BEHALF OF ALL THE DOJO FELLAS.
AHH, I'M HERE TO CHECK ON MARIKO...
UH-OH...
W-W-WAIT!
WE'RE ON THE THIRD FLOOR!

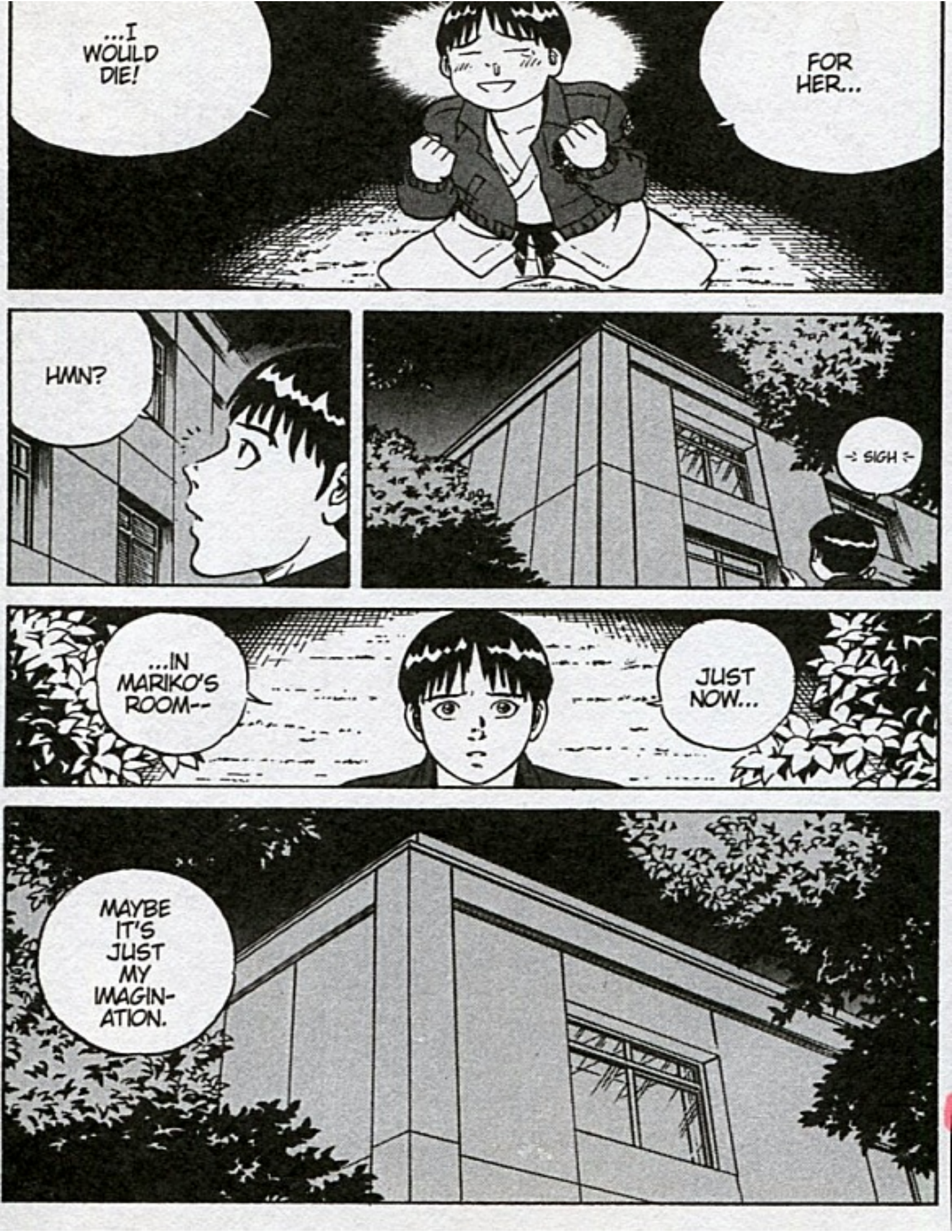
YESSIR!
GUYS, NOT MUCH YOU CAN DO, NOW. GO ON HOME, OKAY?
UN-DER-STOOD. WE'LL GO, NOW.
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO RETIRE TO THE WAITING ROOM. I PROMISE TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER.
YAMAMOTO-SAN, THE HEAD NURSE HAS JUST GIVEN ME THE FULL REPORT--
HGAK!
SSSS
WHA-
!
ｶﾌｧｯ

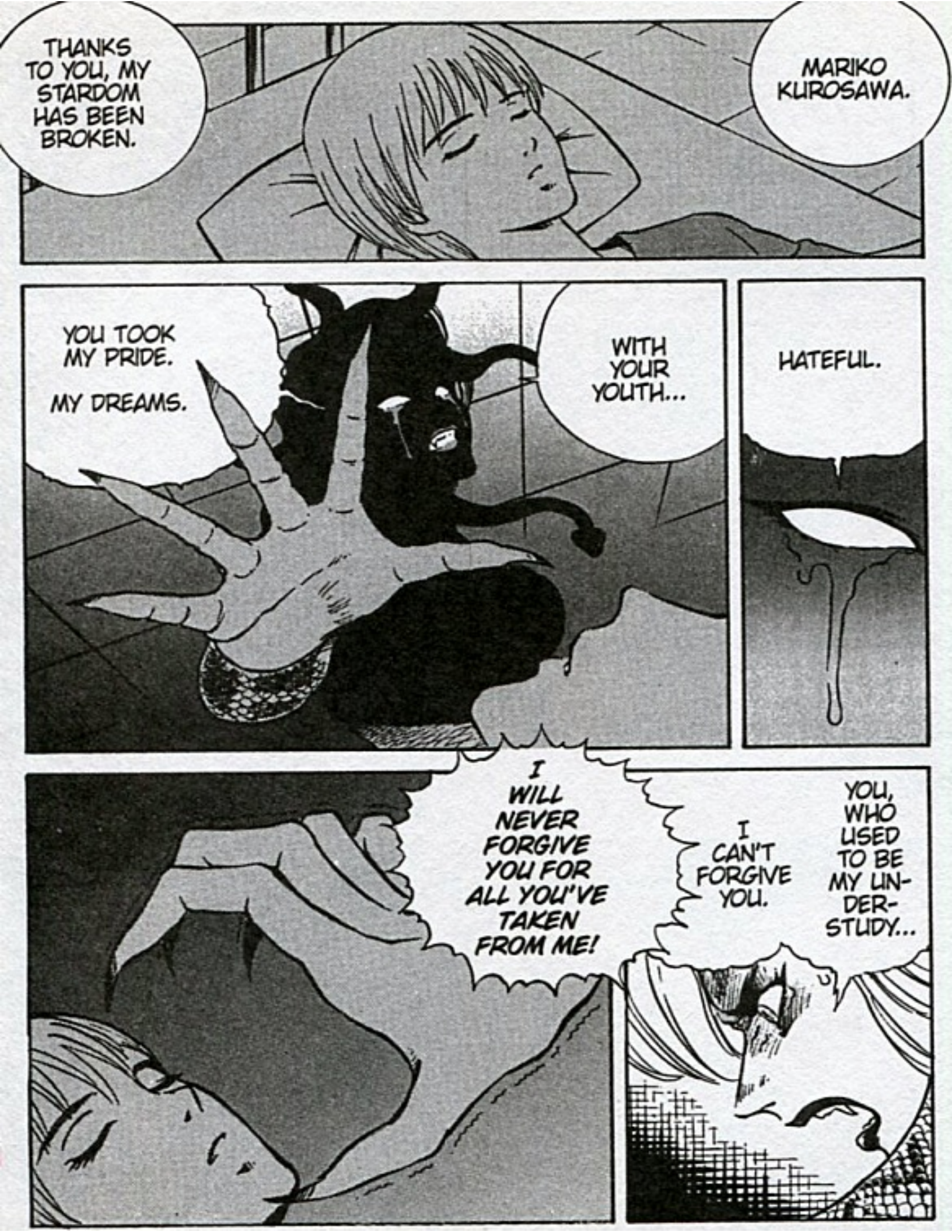
Grrk!
!!

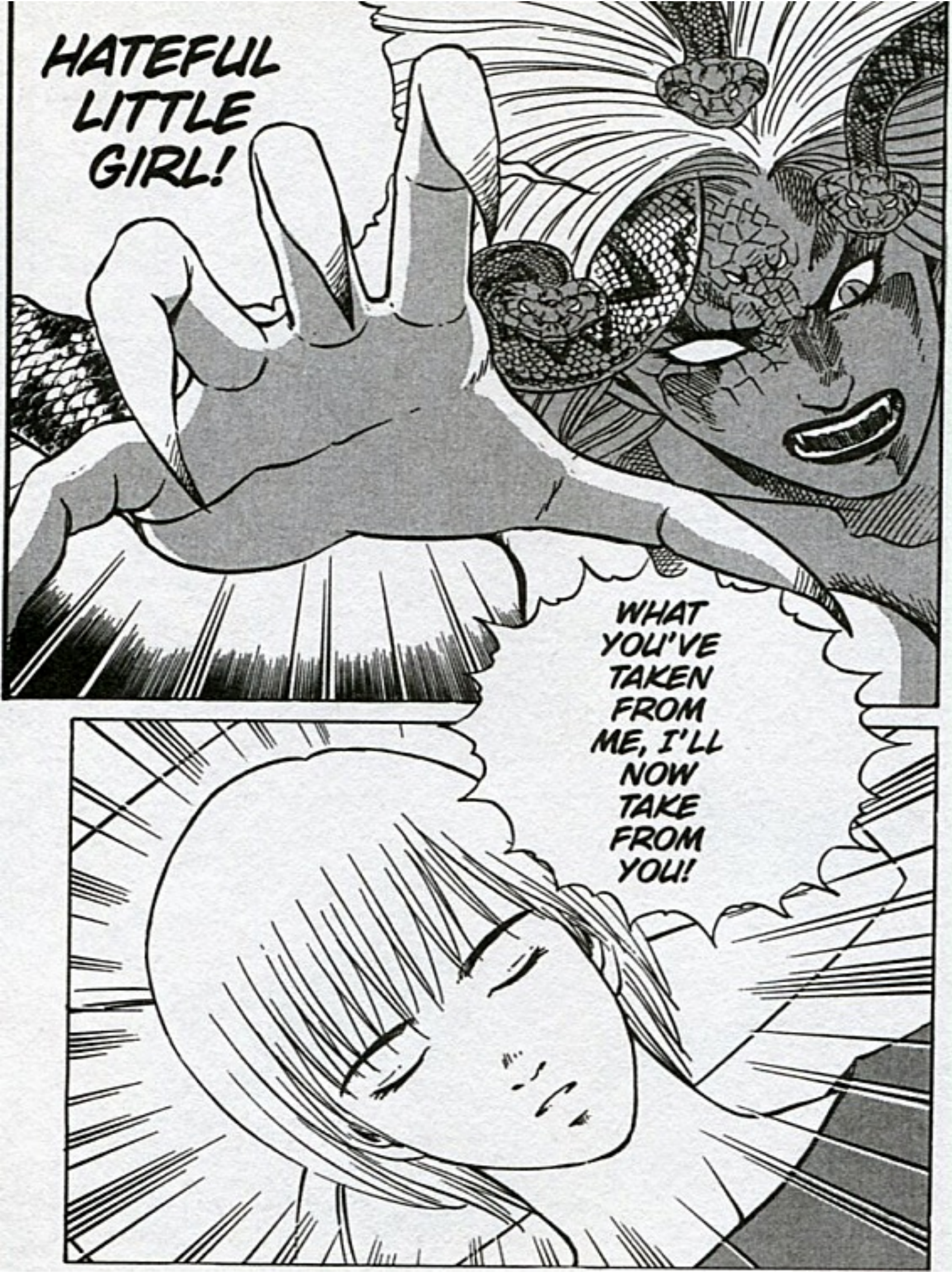


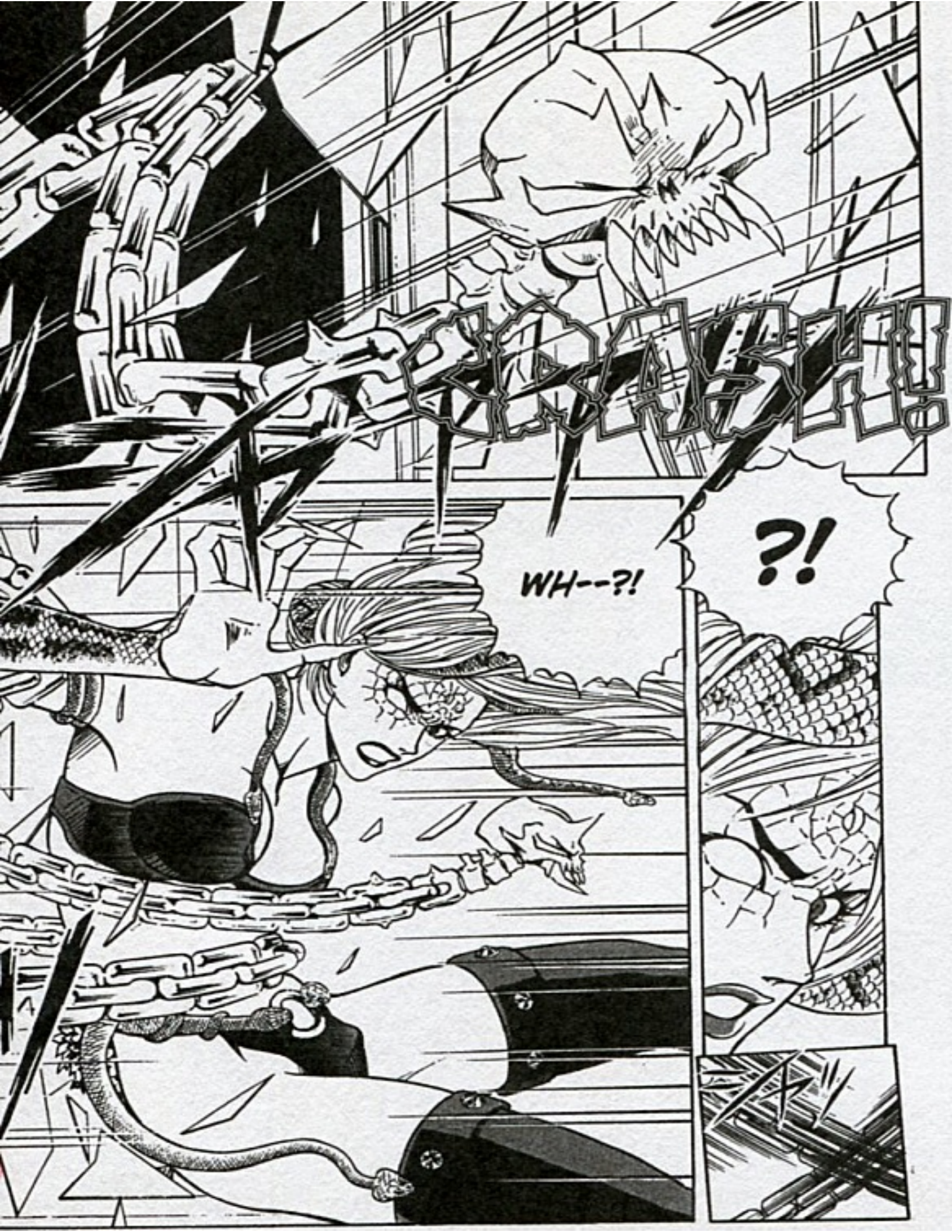
thunk

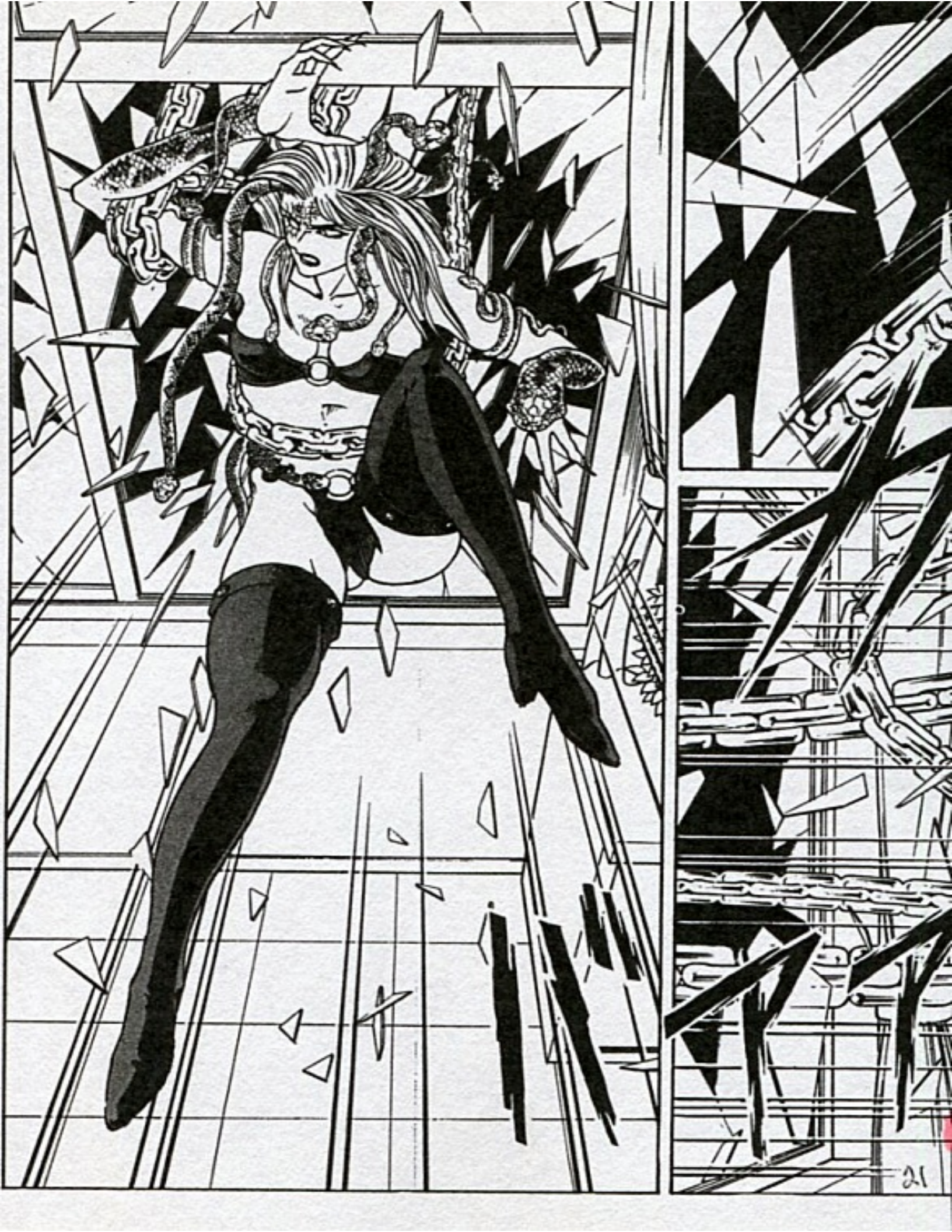

...ALL SEEM TO CENTER ON MARIKO.
THIS STRING OF EVENTS...
HOW CRUEL CAN YOU GET? WHAT IF THIS TREE WASN'T HERE???
rustle rustle
krak!
ガサゴソ
IT STARTED WITH HER ROOM GETTING TORN APART.
THEN THE MURDER...
...AND NOW THIS CRAZINESS.
AT A TIME LIKE THIS, IT'S UP TO A MAN LIKE ME...
...TO PROTECT THE HELPLESS WOMAN IN THAT HOSPITAL BED.
LIKE I SHOULD TALK...
...BUT MS. MARIKO IS SO MUCH STRONGER THAN ME!
EVEN SO, SHE KEPT MY EGO INTACT BY MAKING ME OUT TO BE THE BETTER IN FRONT OF THE GUYS...

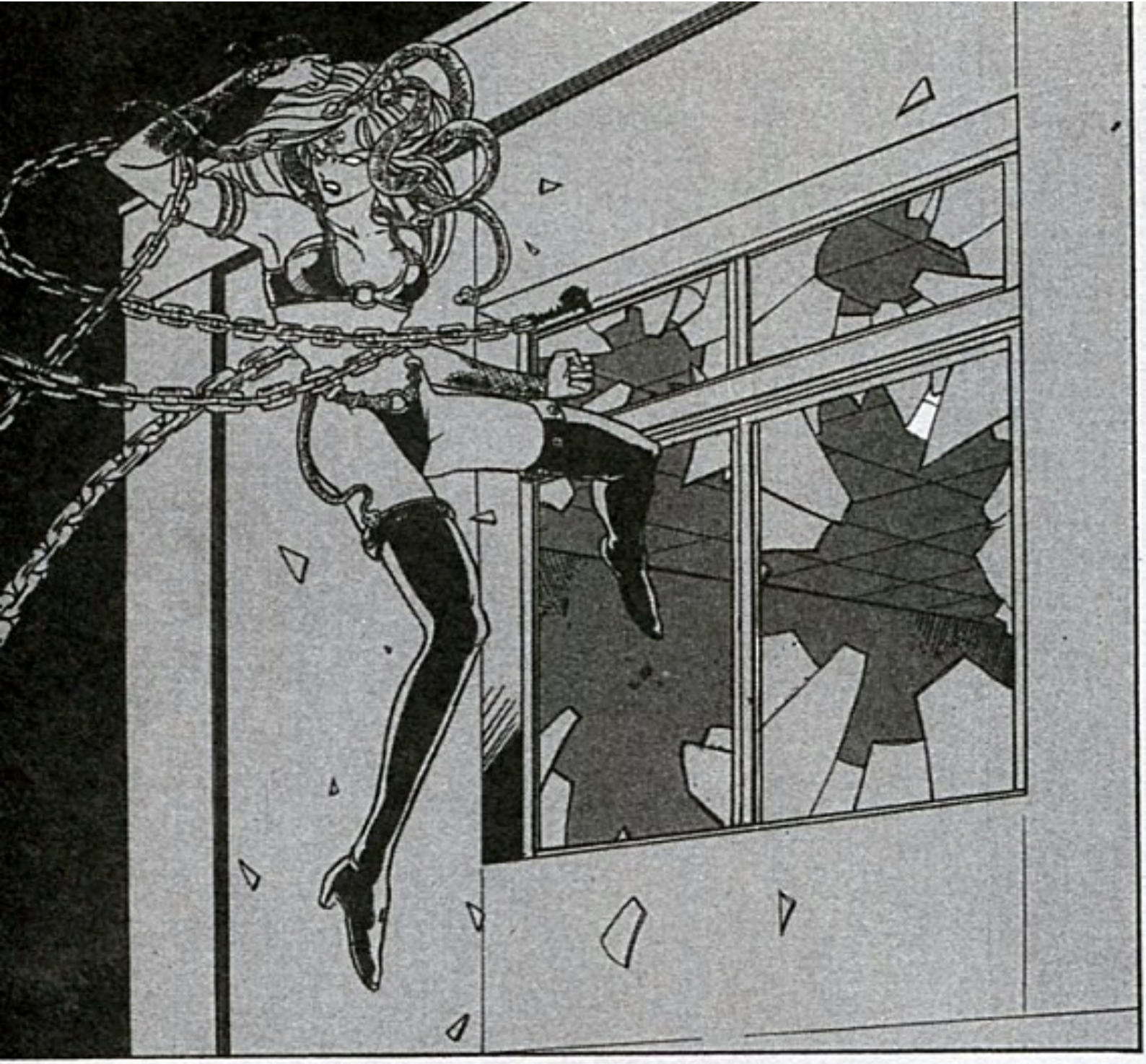

...I WOULD DIE!
FOR HER...
HMN?
-: SIGH :-
...IN MARIKO'S ROOM--
JUST NOW...
MAYBE IT'S JUST MY IMAGIN-ATION.

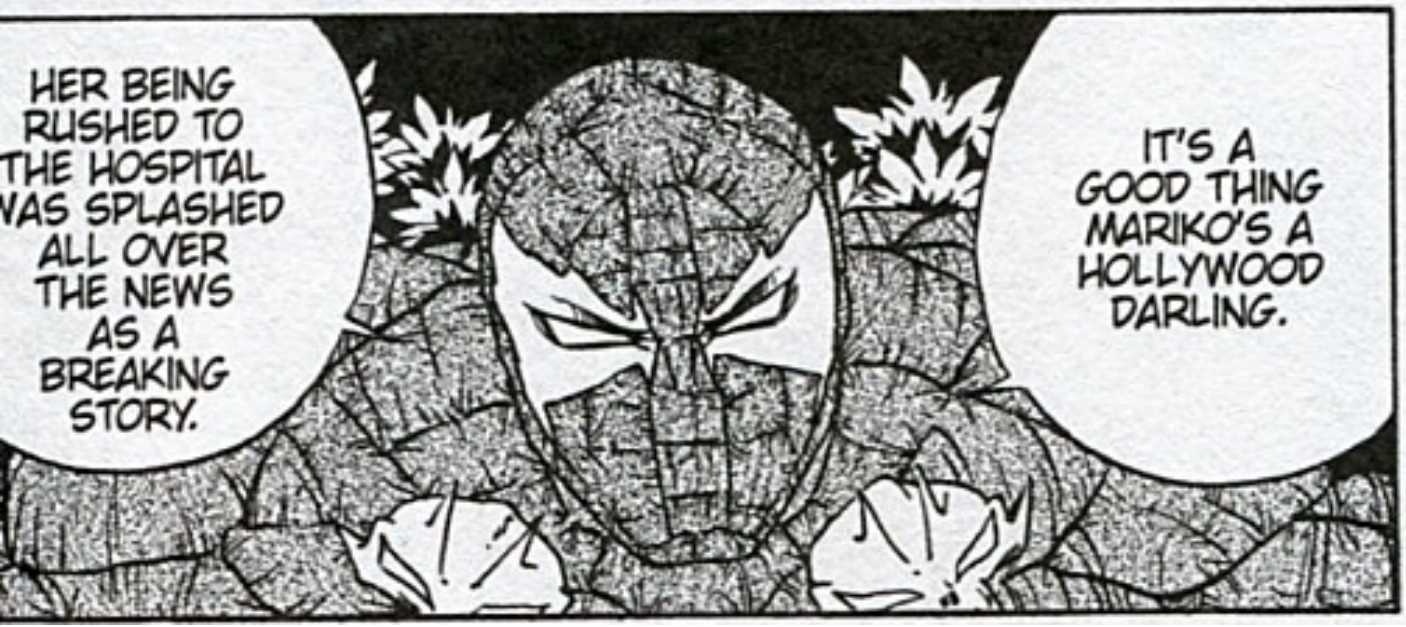

THANKS TO YOU, MY STARDOM HAS BEEN BROKEN.
MARIKO KUROSAWA.
YOU TOOK MY PRIDE.
MY DREAMS.
WITH YOUR YOUTH...
HATEFUL.
I WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR ALL YOU'VE TAKEN FROM ME!
I CAN'T FORGIVE YOU.
YOU, WHO USED TO BE MY UNDER-STUDY...

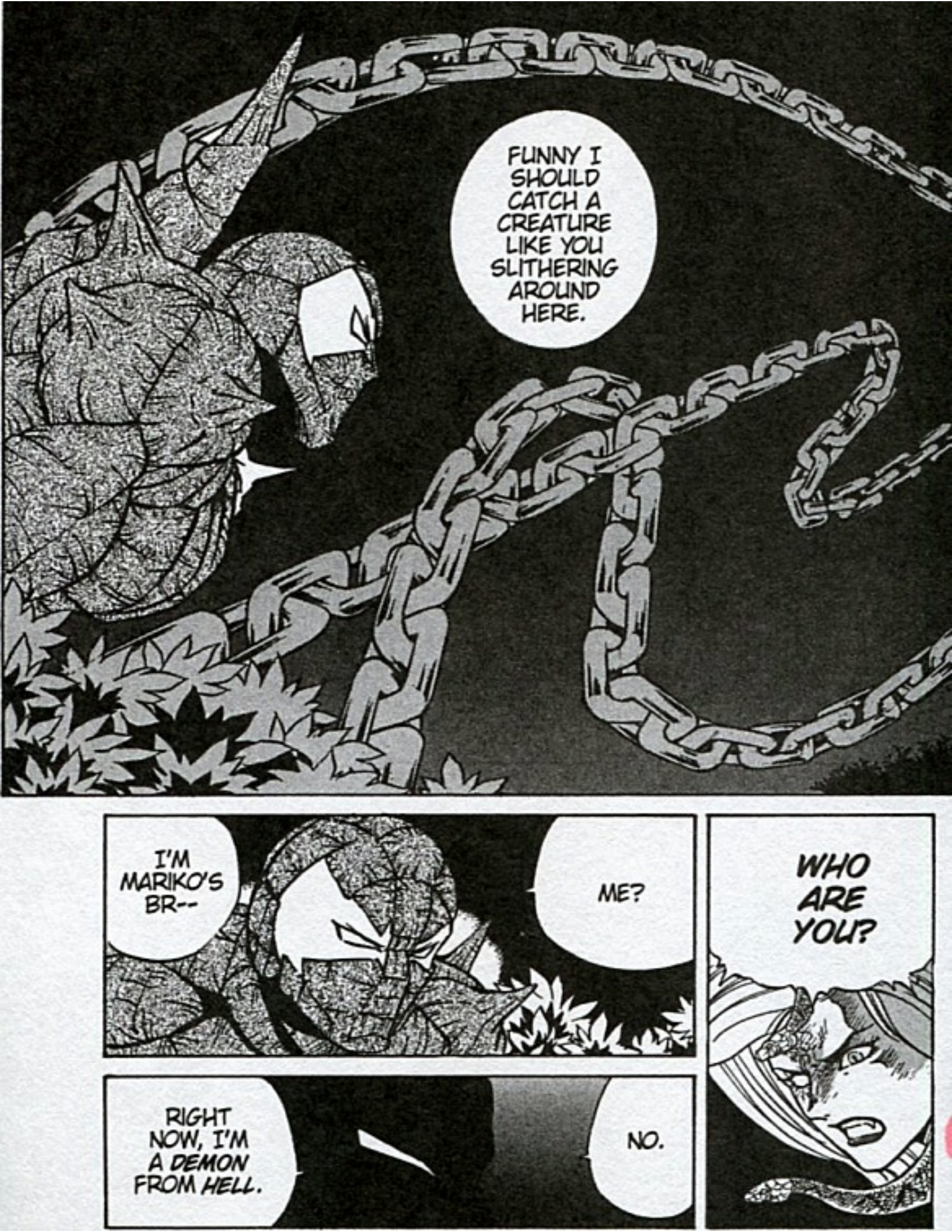

HATEFUL LITTLE GIRL!
WHAT YOU'VE TAKEN FROM ME, I'LL NOW TAKE FROM YOU!


CRASH!!
WH--?!
?!






HER BEING RUSHED TO THE HOSPITAL WAS SPLASHED ALL OVER THE NEWS AS A BREAKING STORY.
IT'S A GOOD THING MARIKO'S A HOLLYWOOD DARLING.

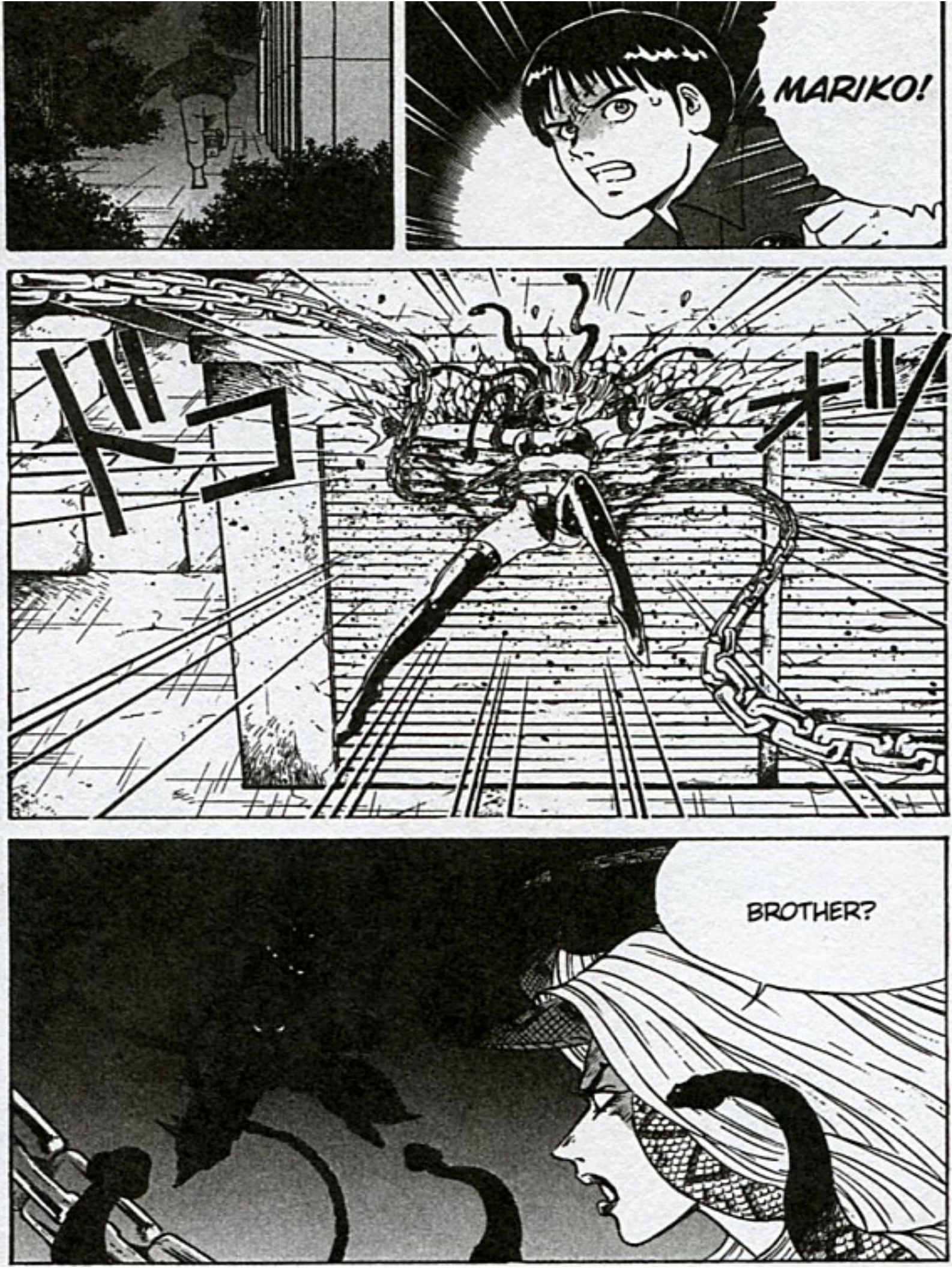

FUNNY I SHOULD CATCH A CREATURE LIKE YOU SLITHERING AROUND HERE.
I'M MARIKO'S BR--
ME?
WHO ARE YOU?
RIGHT NOW, I'M A DEMON FROM HELL.
NO.

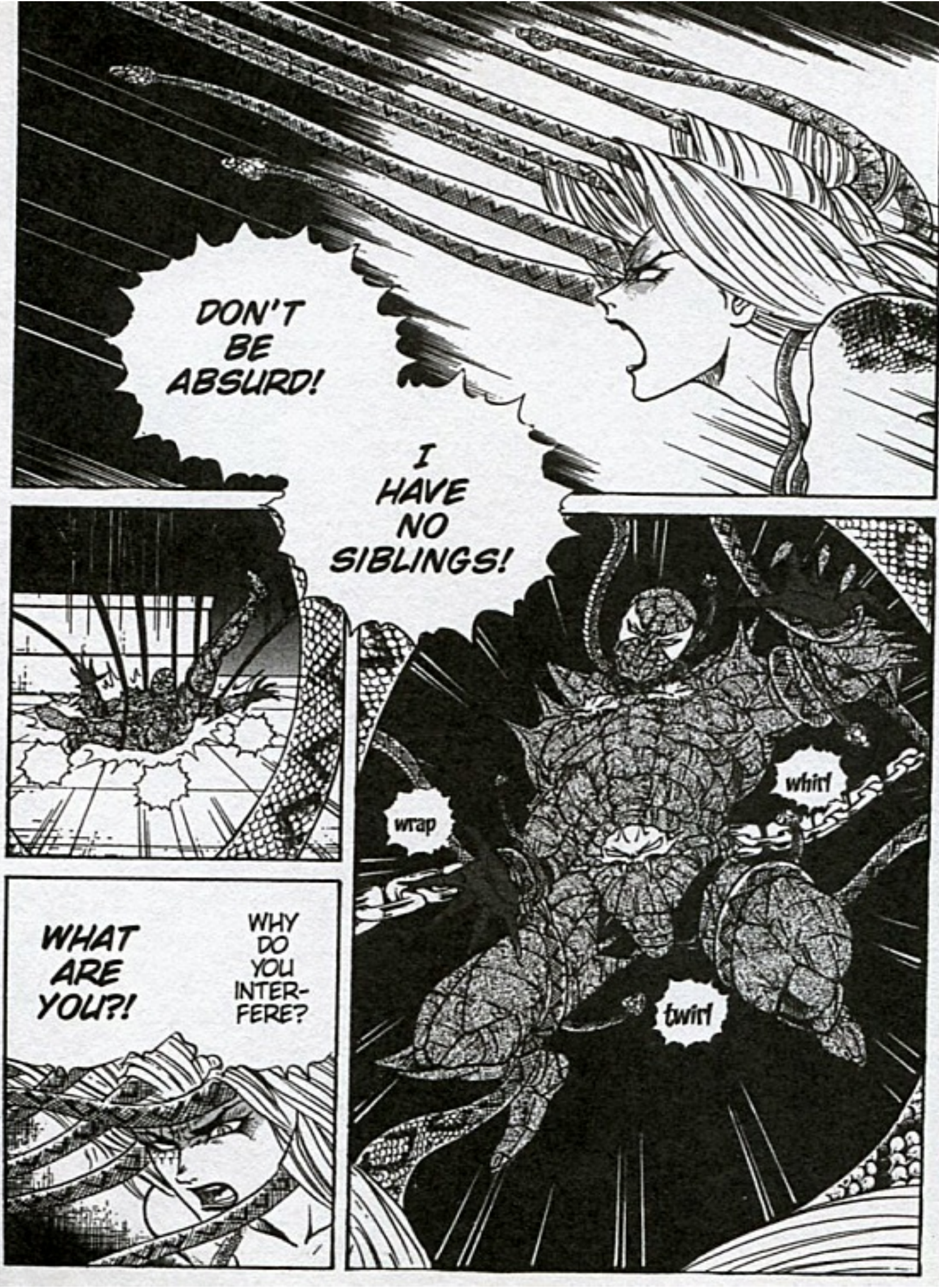
...I'M YOUR BROTHER!
AND AS THAT DEMON...

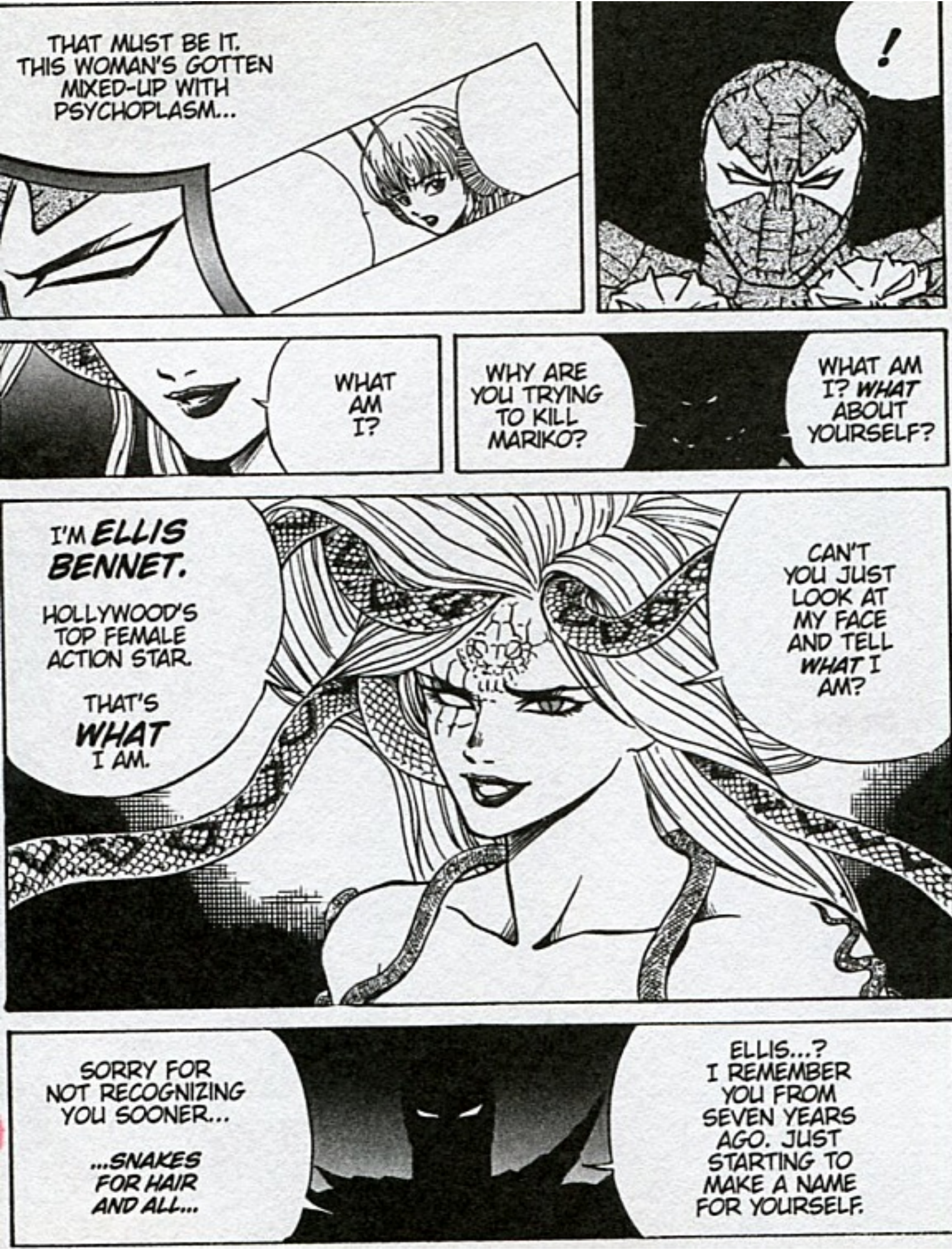
HMN? WHAT WAS THAT?

ONLY SAW SHADOWS, BUT I'D SWEAR THEY WERE BY MARIKO'S-- OH, NO...

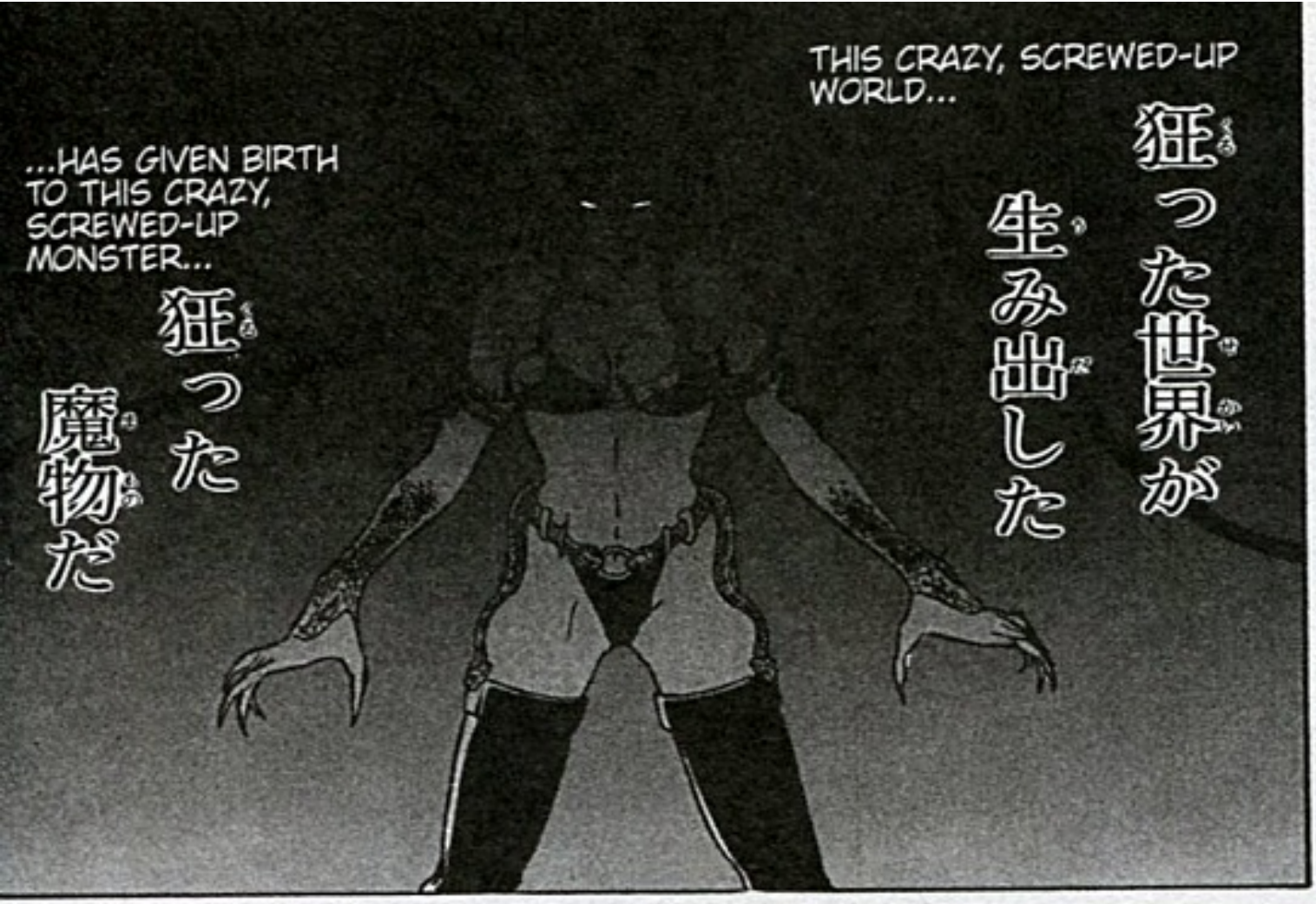
krak


MARIKO!
ドコ
オ!!
BROTHER?

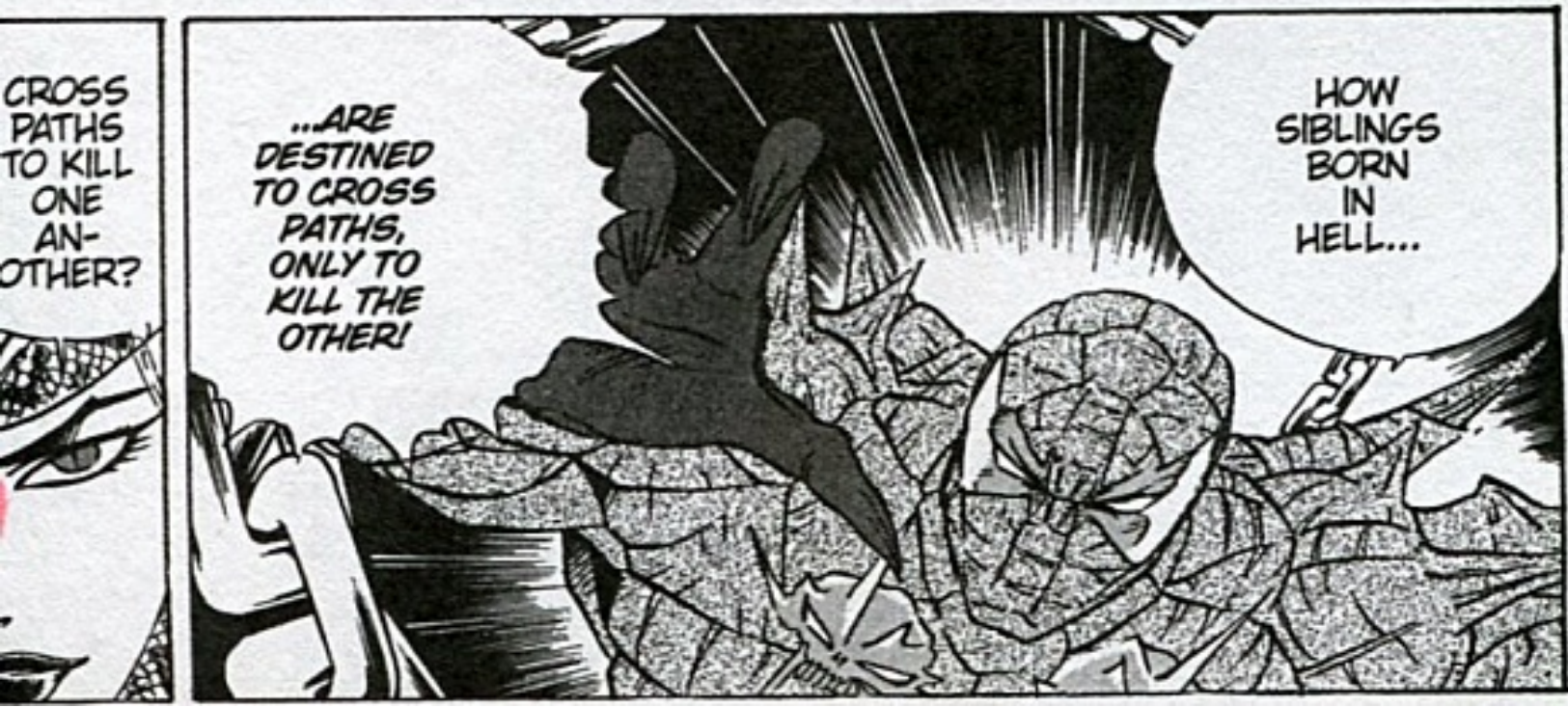

DON'T BE ABSURD!
I HAVE NO SIBLINGS!
wrap
whirl
twirl
WHAT ARE YOU?!
WHY DO YOU INTER-FERE?

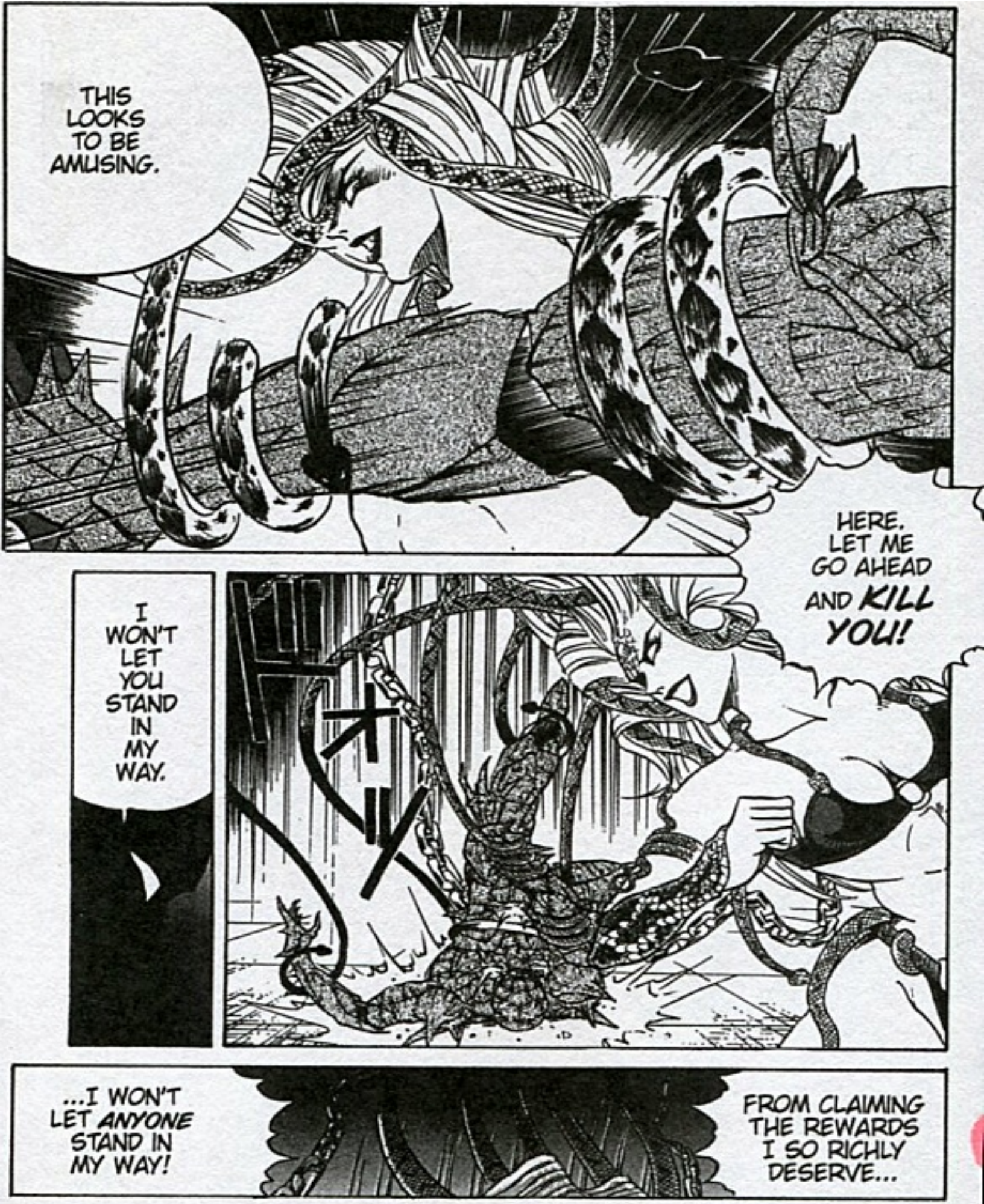

THAT MUST BE IT. THIS WOMAN'S GOTTEN MIXED-UP WITH PSYCHOPLASM...
!
WHAT AM I?
WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL MARIKO?
WHAT AM I? WHAT ABOUT YOURSELF?
I'M ELLIS BENNET.
HOLLYWOOD'S TOP FEMALE ACTION STAR.
THAT'S WHAT I AM.
CAN'T YOU JUST LOOK AT MY FACE AND TELL WHAT I AM?
SORRY FOR NOT RECOGNIZING YOU SOONER...
...SNAKES FOR HAIR AND ALL...
ELLIS...? I REMEMBER YOU FROM SEVEN YEARS AGO. JUST STARTING TO MAKE A NAME FOR YOURSELF.

SO GIRLS LIKE MARIKO...
BUT THIS BEAUTY IS ETERNAL, YOU SEE?
HEH, HEH, HEH. IT'S TRUE. MY BEAUTY NOW ISN'T QUITE THAT WHICH I WAS BORN WITH.
...I'LL NEVER LOSE TO THE LIKES OF HER AGAIN!
...LITTLE GIRLS LIKE MARIKO...
THERE MIGHT NOT BE ANY WAY TO HELP HER...
SHE'S CRAZY.

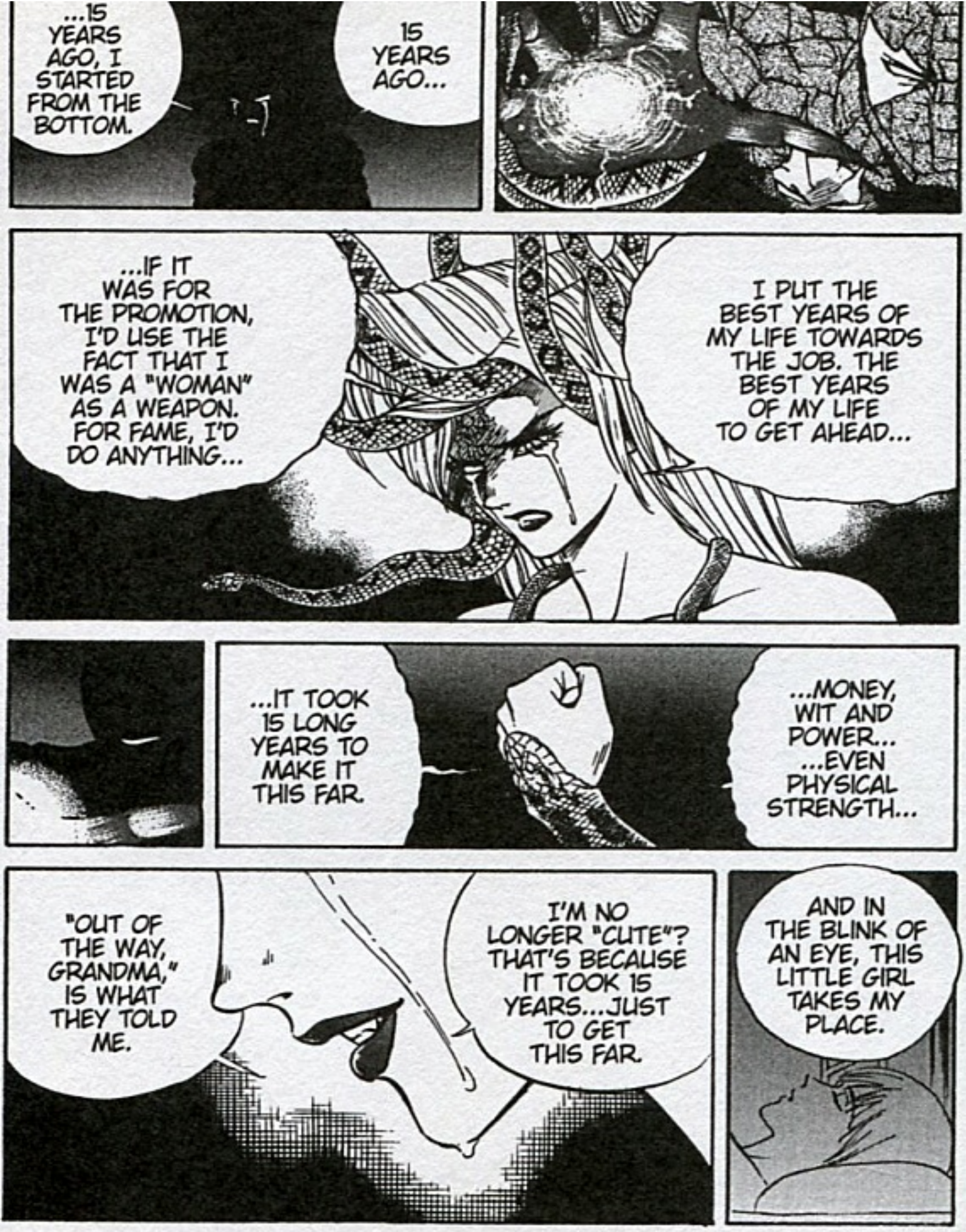

THIS CRAZY, SCREWED-UP WORLD...
狂った世界が
生み出した
...HAS GIVEN BIRTH TO THIS CRAZY, SCREWED-UP MONSTER...
狂った
魔物だ

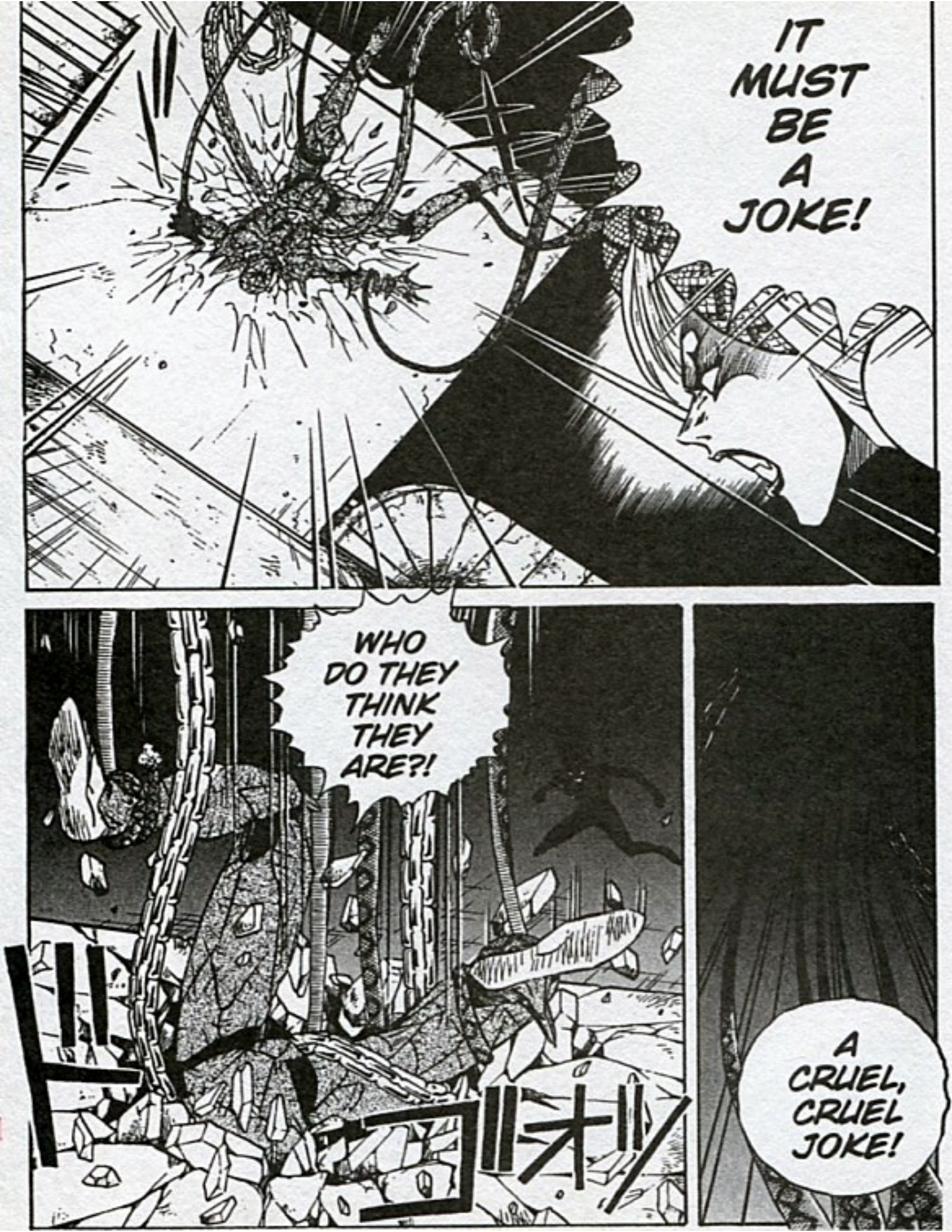
LET ME TEACH YOU THIS LESSON.
AS YOUR BROTHER.
VERY WELL.

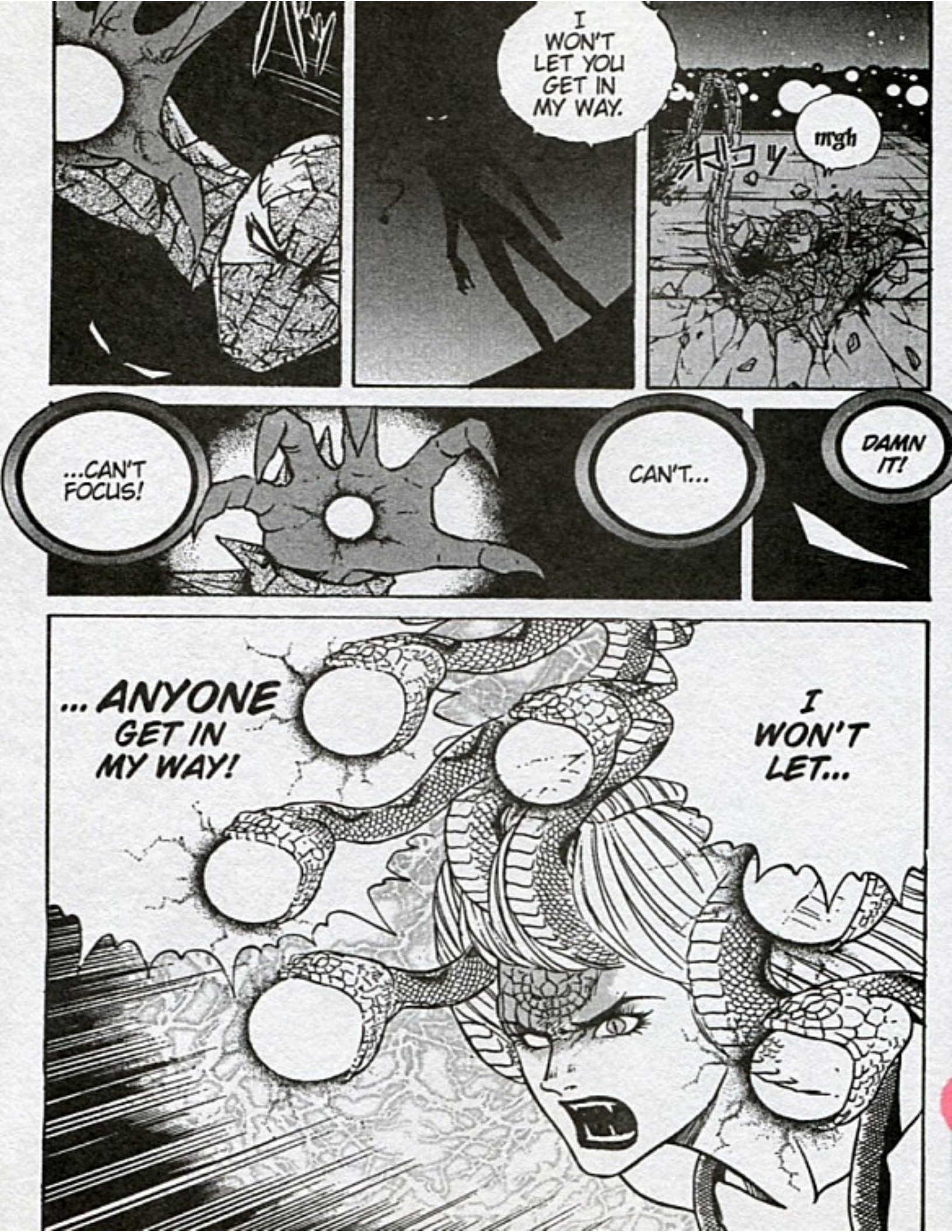

CROSS PATHS TO KILL ONE AN-OTHER?
...ARE DESTINED TO CROSS PATHS, ONLY TO KILL THE OTHER!
HOW SIBLINGS BORN IN HELL...

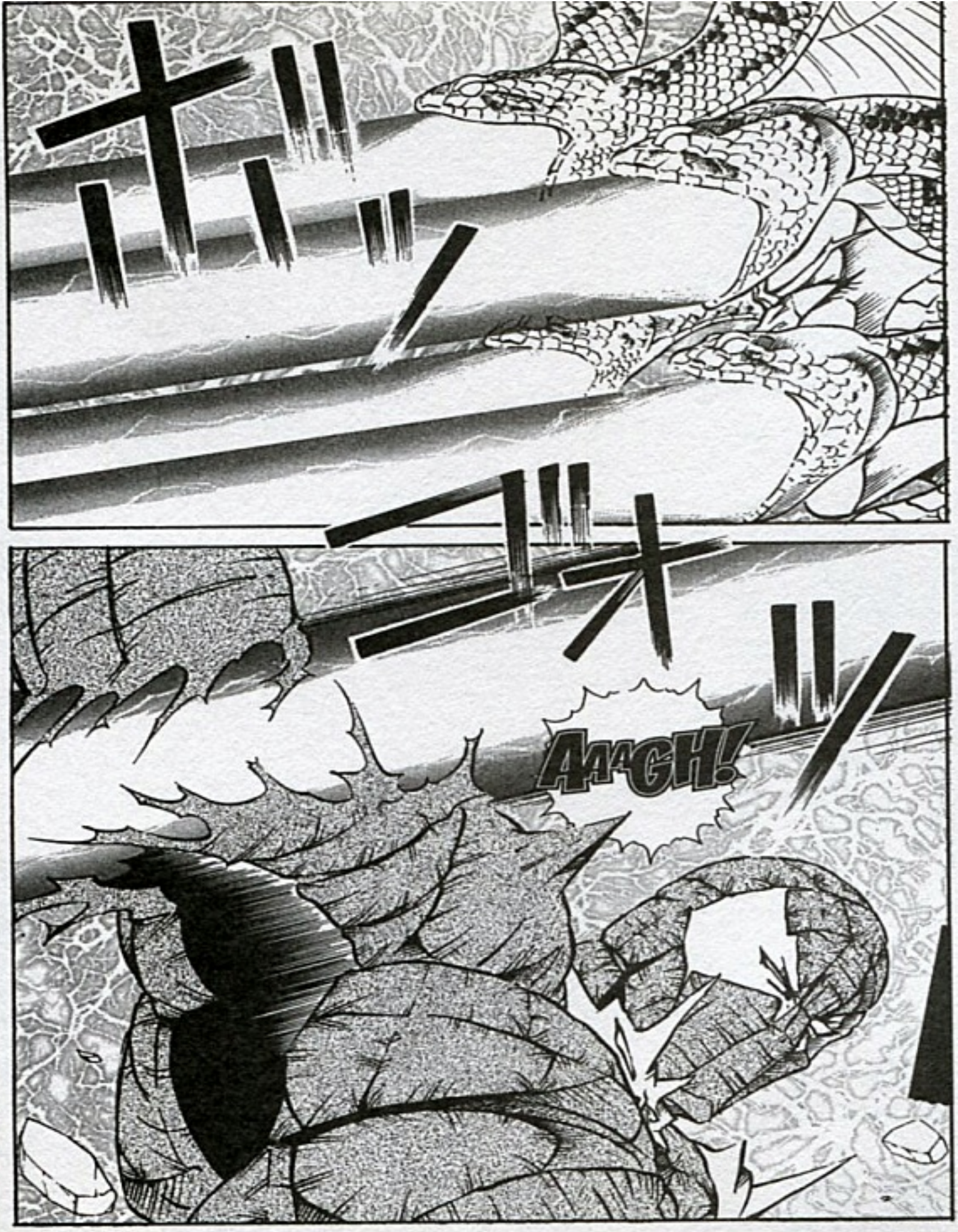

THIS LOOKS TO BE AMUSING.
HERE. LET ME GO AHEAD AND KILL YOU!
I WON'T LET YOU STAND IN MY WAY.
...I WON'T LET ANYONE STAND IN MY WAY!
FROM CLAIMING THE REWARDS I SO RICHLY DESERVE...

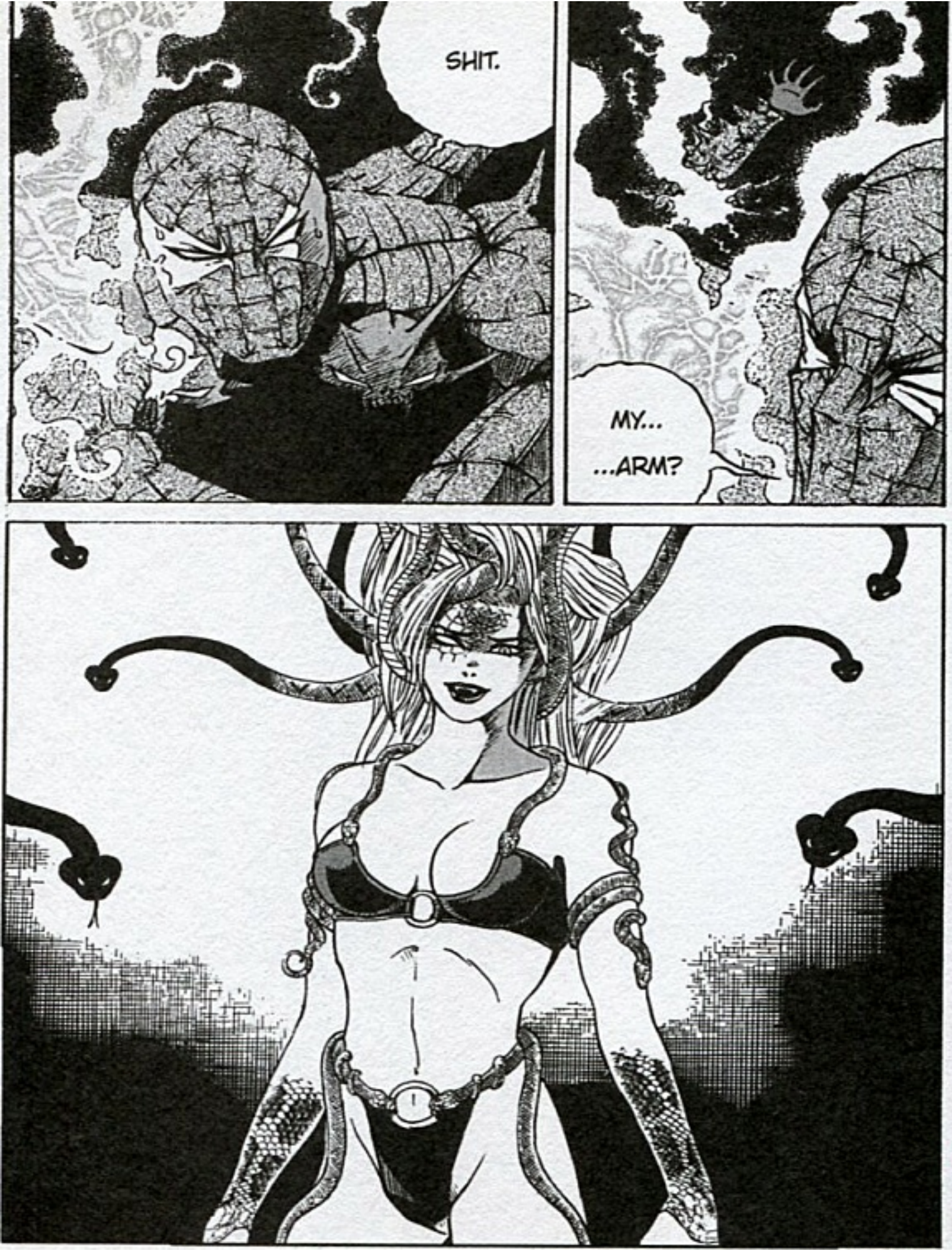
THEN THERE'S NO CHOICE...
...SAVE TO TEACH YOU THIS ONE LESSON, HERE AND NOW...
?!
...ALL IN A SINGLE SHOT.
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
TEARS?
"だから言ったろ"
"魔界物質(サイコプラズム)に支配(しはい)された人間(にんげん)は死(し)ねば元(もと)の姿に"
...ANYONE GET... ...IN... ...MY... ...WAY.
WON'T LET ANYONE...


...15 YEARS AGO, I STARTED FROM THE BOTTOM.
15 YEARS AGO...
...IF IT WAS FOR THE PROMOTION, I'D USE THE FACT THAT I WAS A "WOMAN" AS A WEAPON. FOR FAME, I'D DO ANYTHING...
I PUT THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE TOWARDS THE JOB. THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE TO GET AHEAD...
...IT TOOK 15 LONG YEARS TO MAKE IT THIS FAR.
...MONEY, WIT AND POWER... ...EVEN PHYSICAL STRENGTH...
"OUT OF THE WAY, GRANDMA," IS WHAT THEY TOLD ME.
I'M NO LONGER "CUTE"? THAT'S BECAUSE IT TOOK 15 YEARS...JUST TO GET THIS FAR.
AND IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, THIS LITTLE GIRL TAKES MY PLACE.

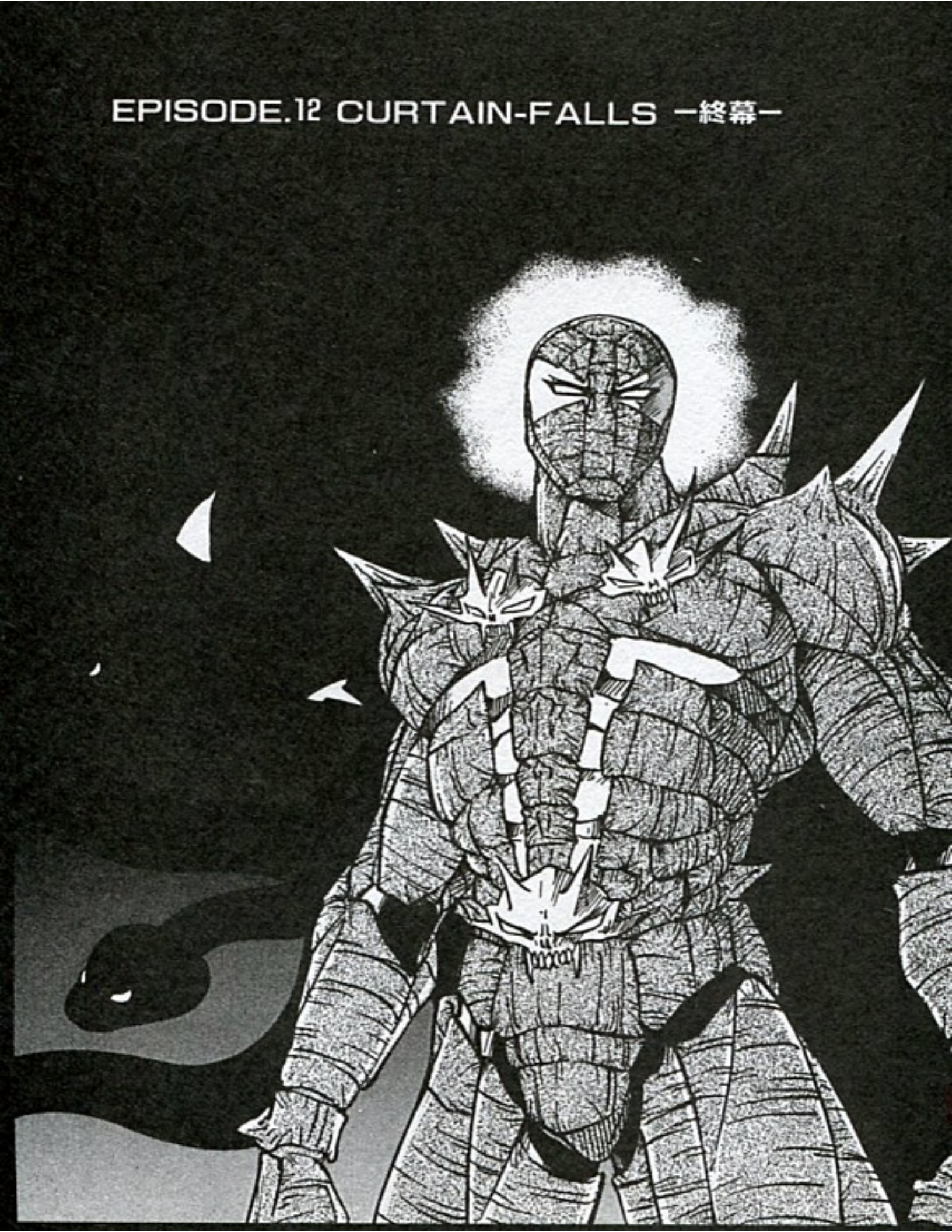

IT MUST BE A JOKE!
WHO DO THEY THINK THEY ARE?!
A CRUEL, CRUEL JOKE!

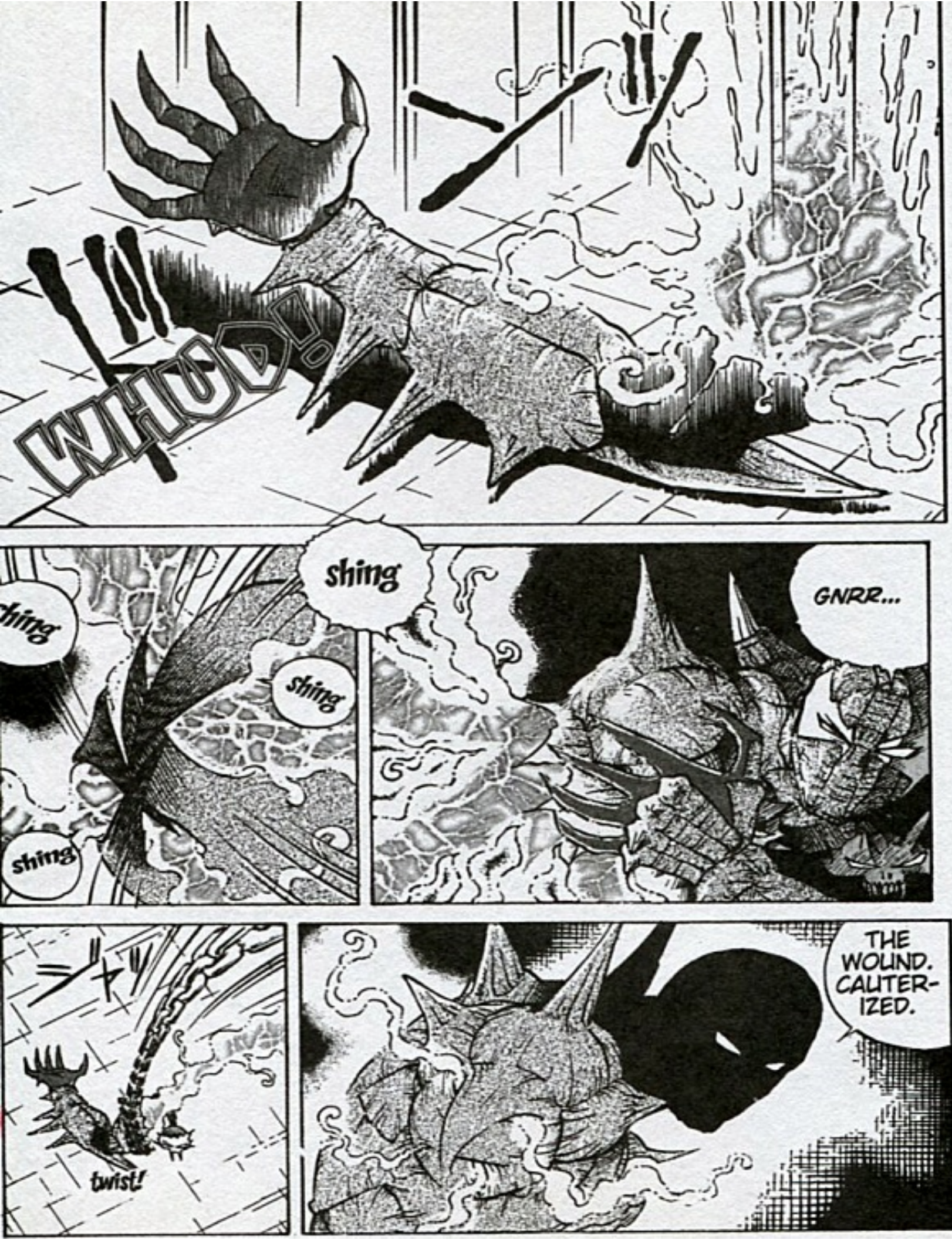

I WON'T LET YOU GET IN MY WAY.
mgh
...CAN'T FOCUS!
CAN'T...
DAMN IT!
...ANYONE GET IN MY WAY!
I WON'T LET...

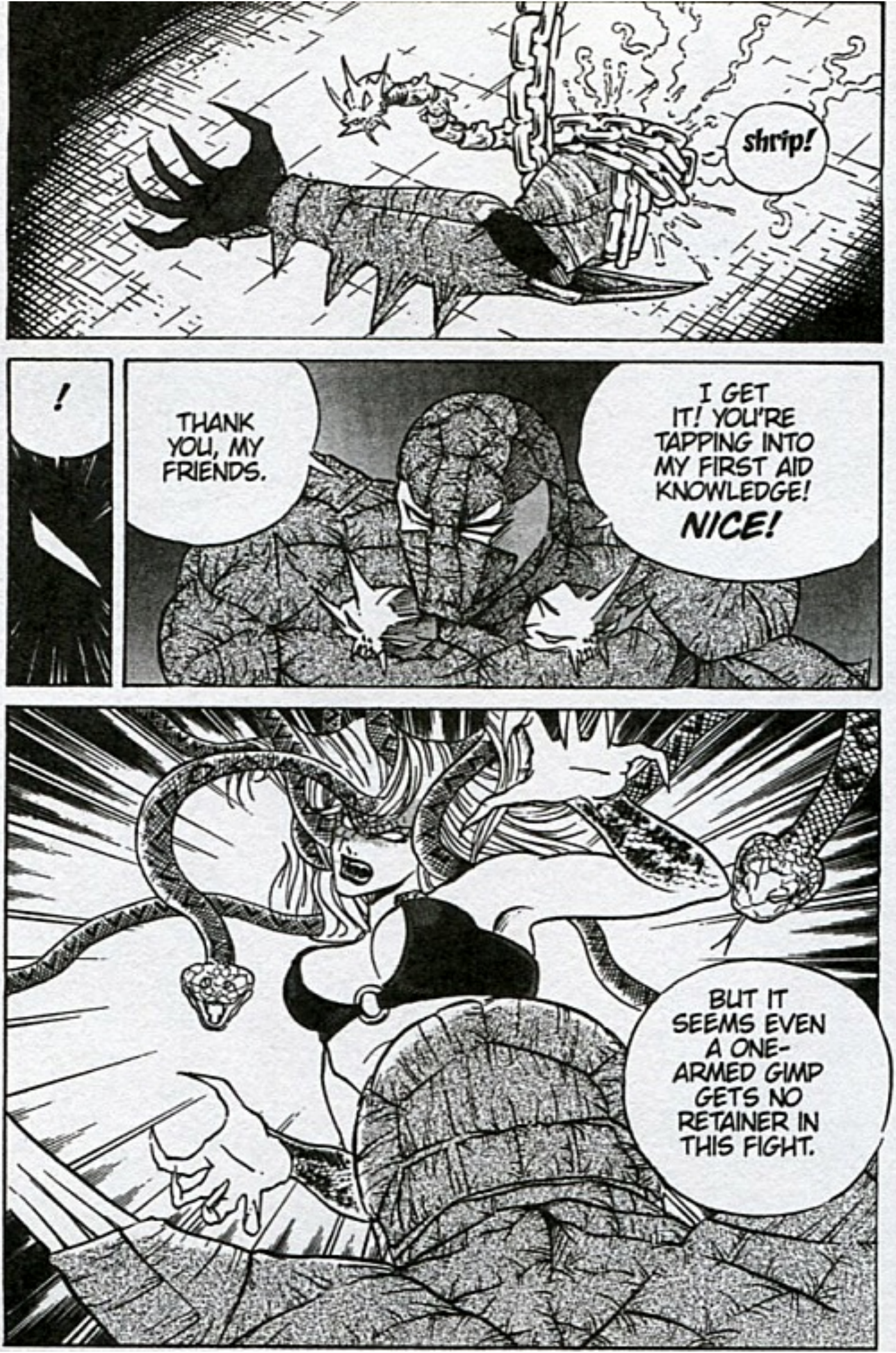

AAAGH!


SHIT.
MY...
...ARM?

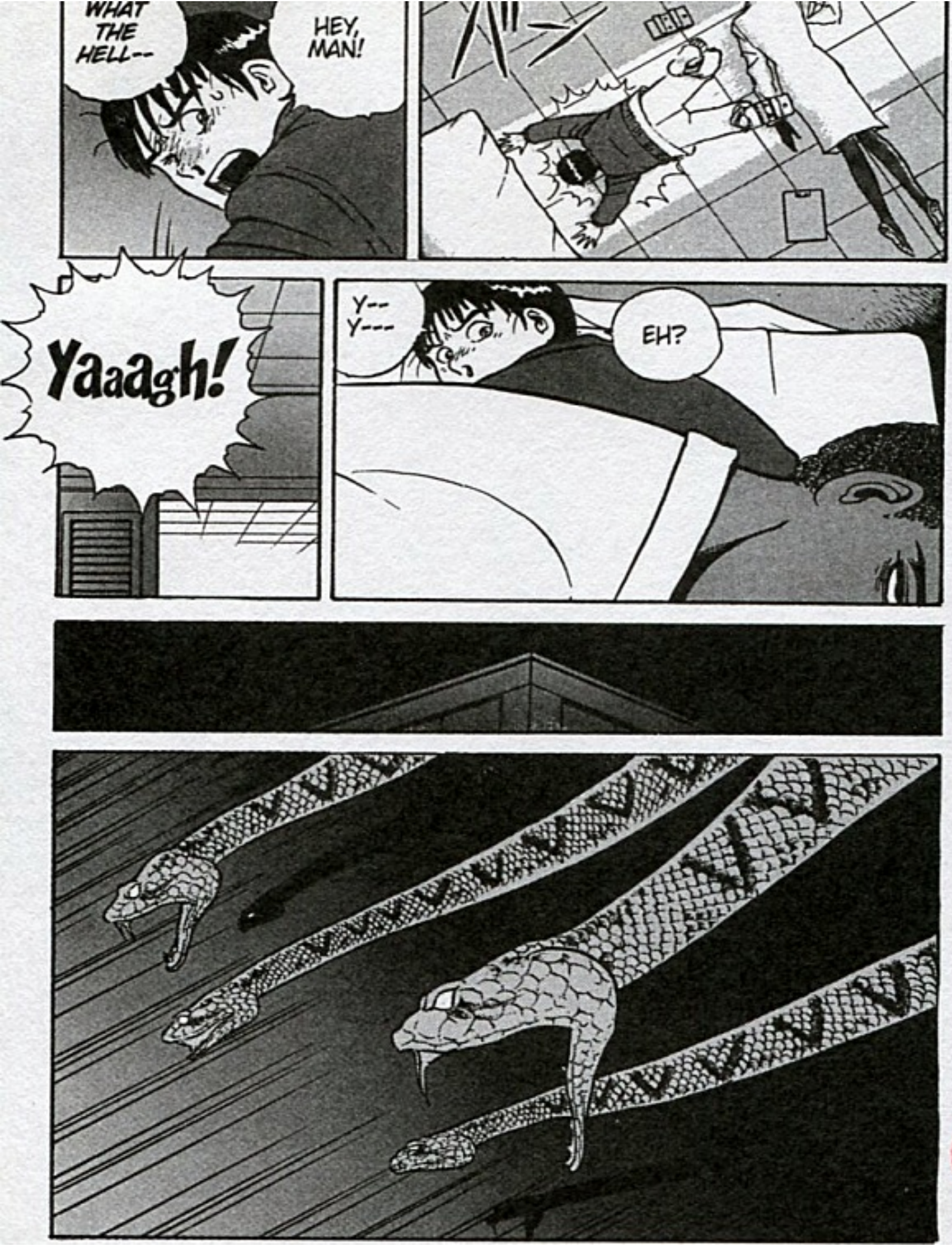
EPISODE.12 CURTAIN-FALLS －終幕－

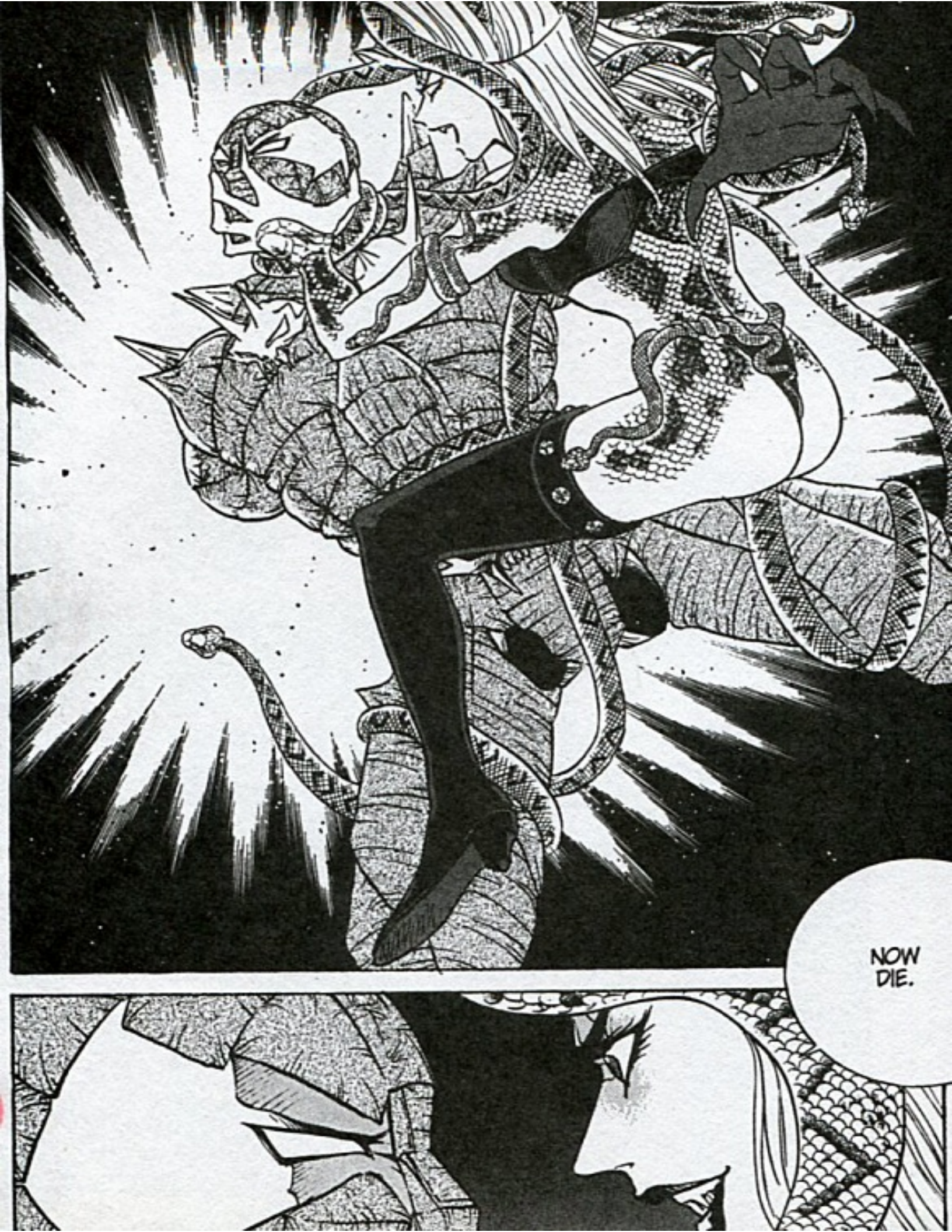


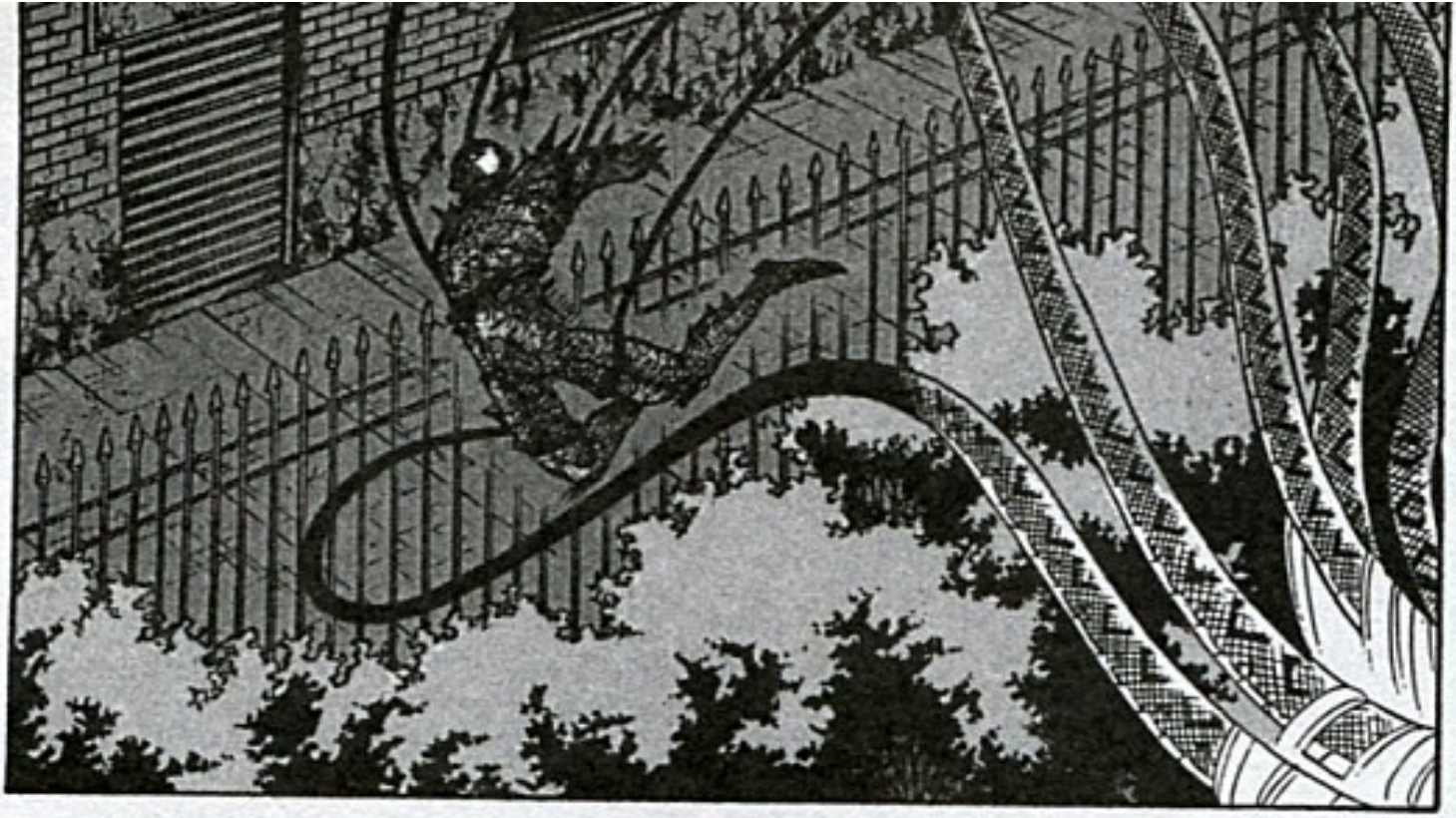

WHOOP
shing
shing
shing
shing
GNRR...
twist!
THE WOUND. CAUTER-IZED.

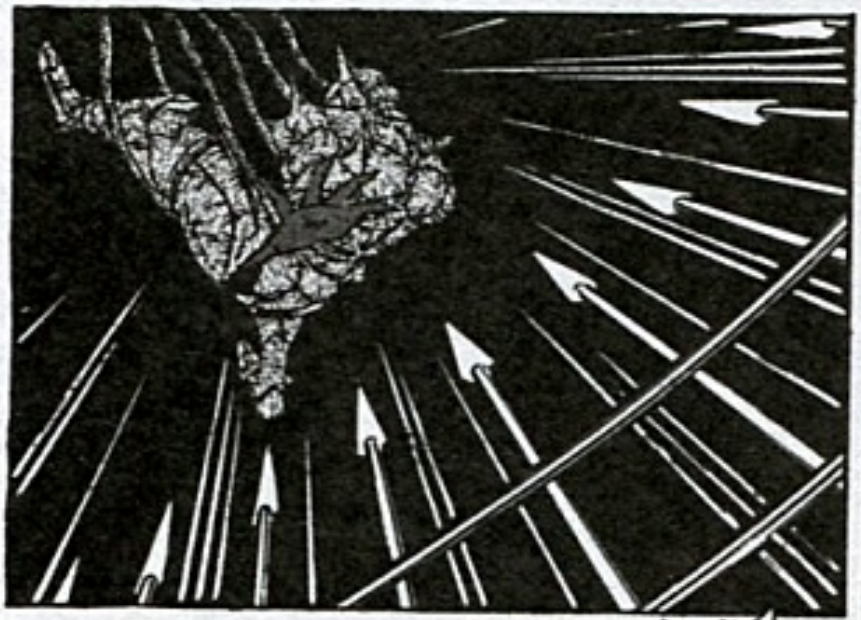

shrip!
!
THANK YOU, MY FRIENDS.
I GET IT! YOU'RE TAPPING INTO MY FIRST AID KNOWLEDGE!
NICE!
BUT IT SEEMS EVEN A ONE-ARMED GIMP GETS NO RETAINER IN THIS FIGHT.

ban!
MARIKO-SAN!
カツ カツ カツ
キュキュ
huff
puff
MARI...
M--
...KOOO!

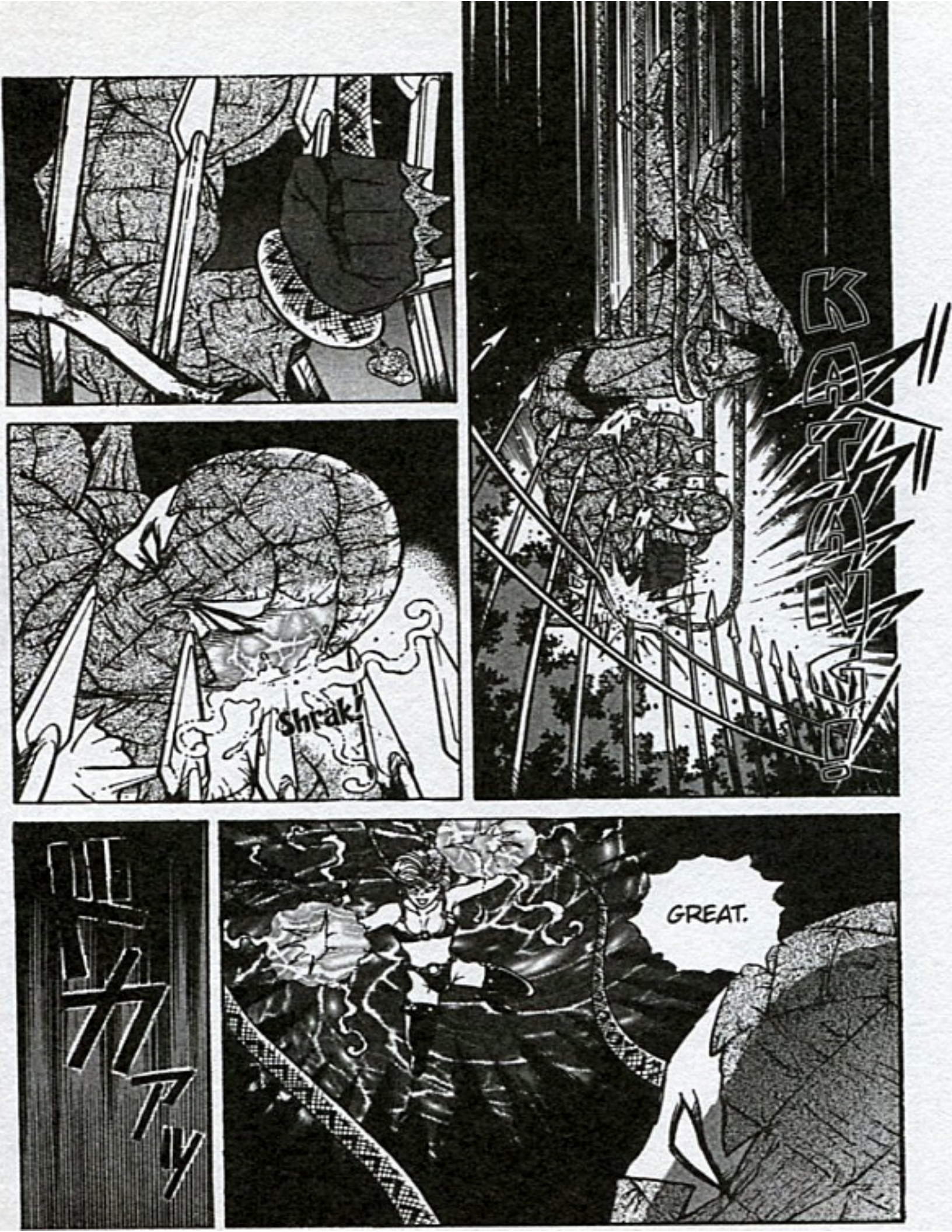

WHAT THE HELL--
HEY, MAN!
Yaaagh!
Y--
Y---
EH?

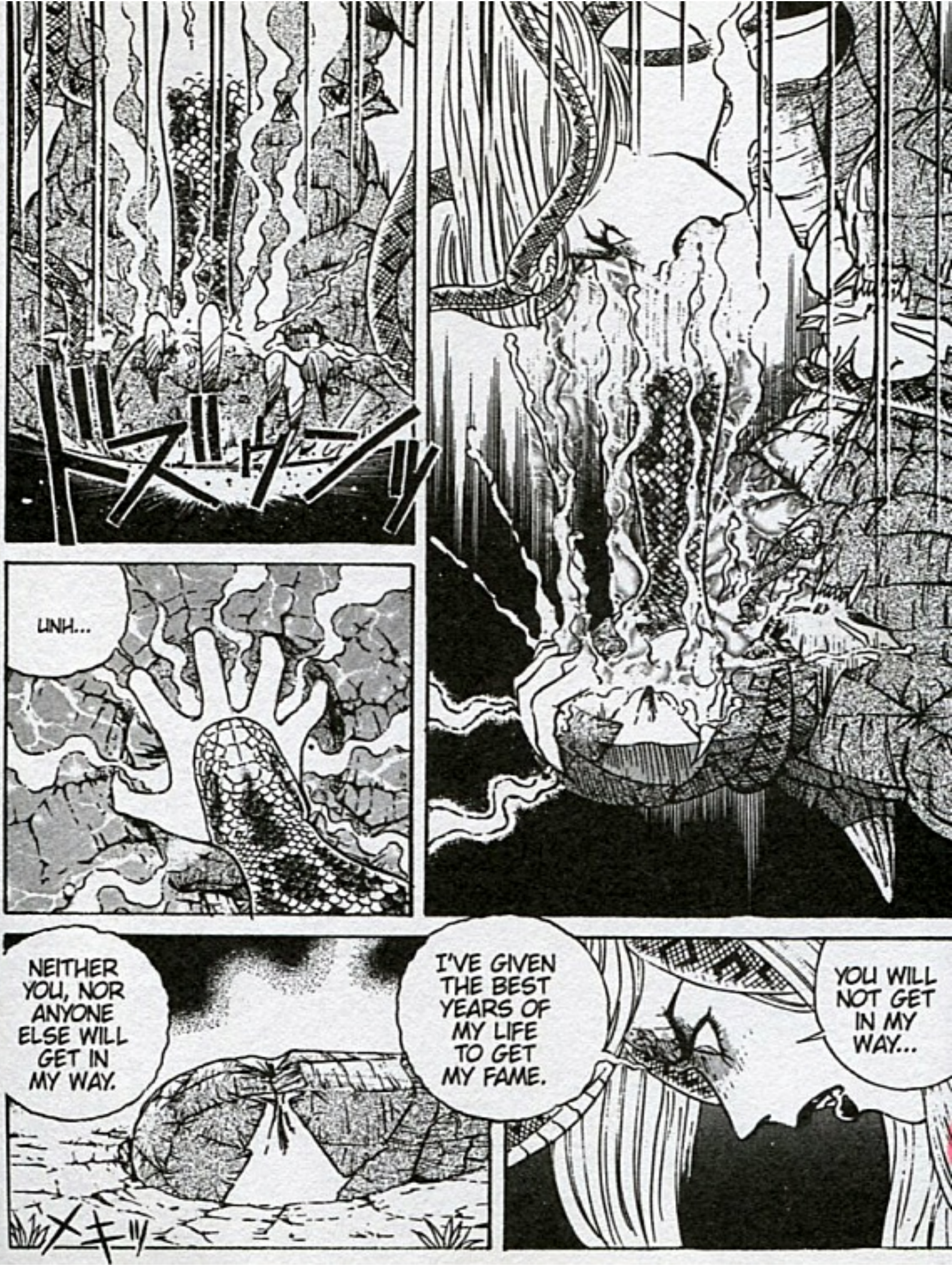

NOW DIE.

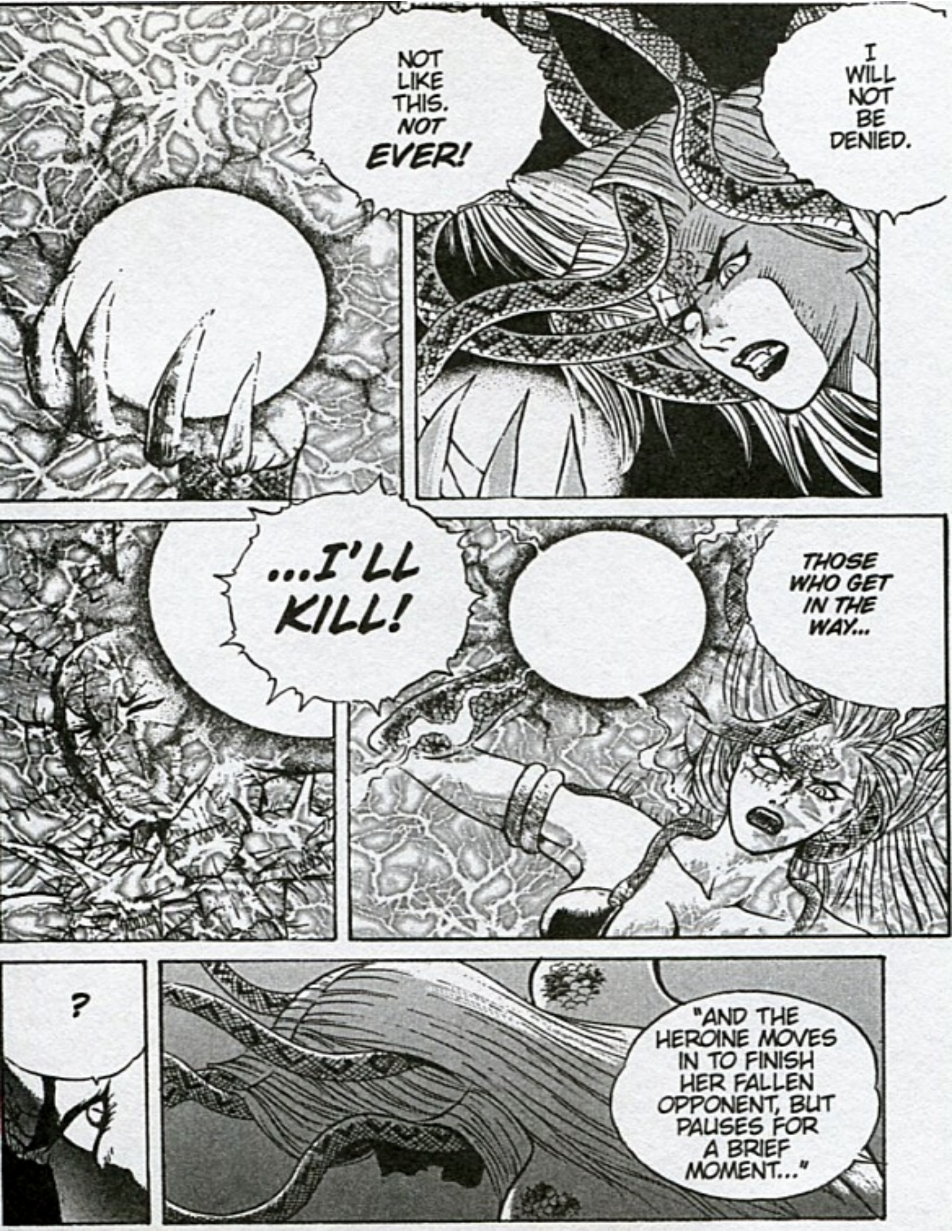


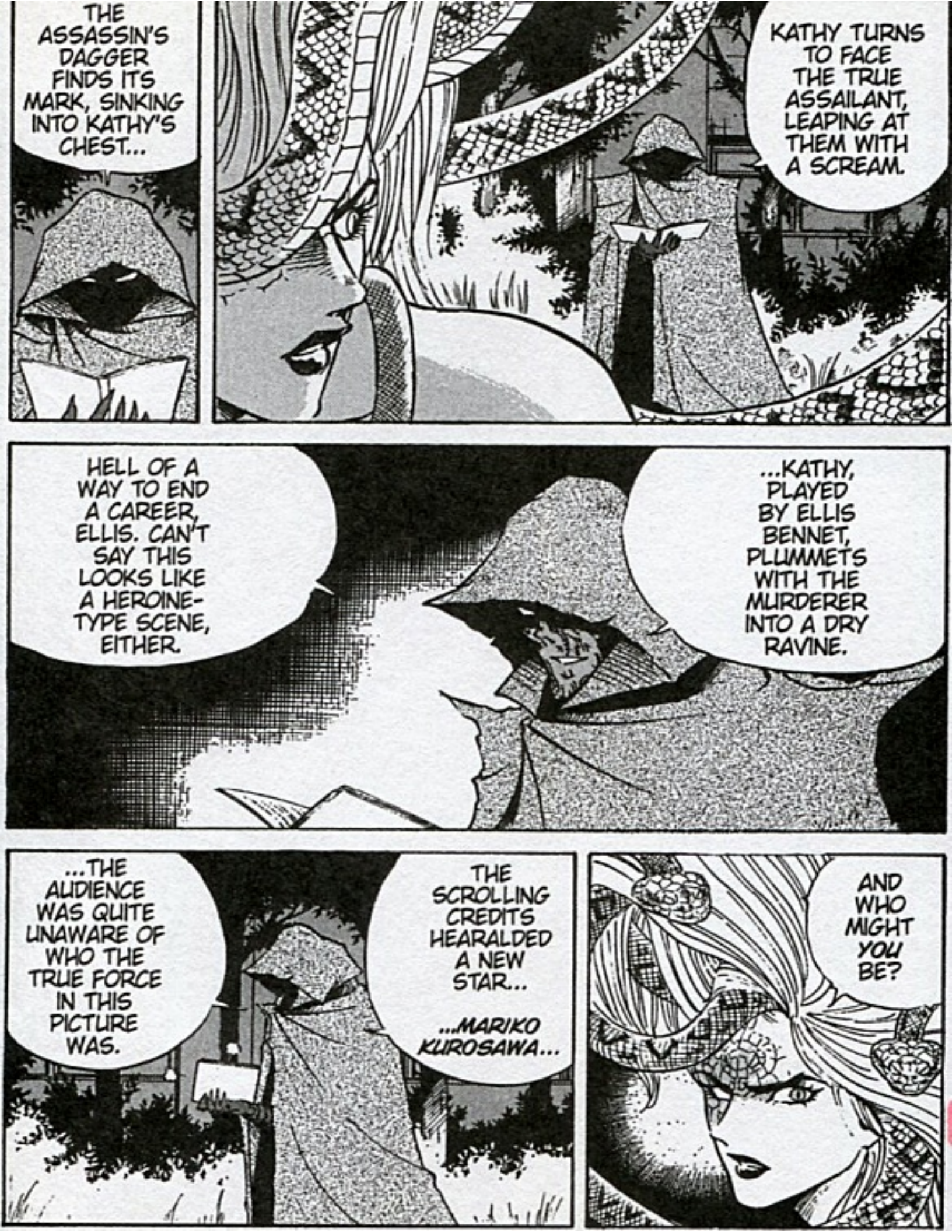


RNGH!


KAGAN!!
Shrak!
GREAT.

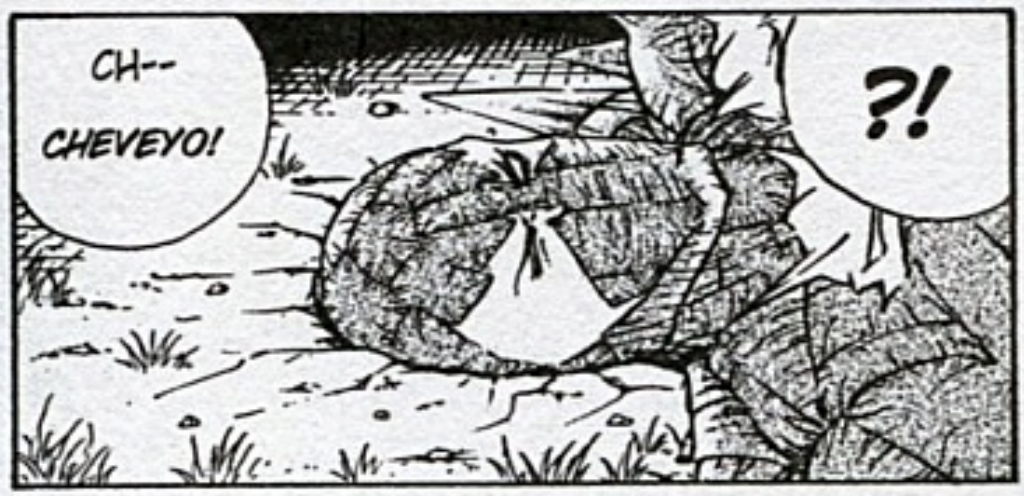

UNH...
NEITHER YOU, NOR ANYONE ELSE WILL GET IN MY WAY.
I'VE GIVEN THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE TO GET MY FAME.
YOU WILL NOT GET IN MY WAY...


NOT LIKE THIS. NOT EVER!
I WILL NOT BE DENIED.
...I'LL KILL!
THOSE WHO GET IN THE WAY...
?
"AND THE HEROINE MOVES IN TO FINISH HER FALLEN OPPONENT, BUT PAUSES FOR A BRIEF MOMENT..."


THE ASSASSIN'S DAGGER FINDS ITS MARK, SINKING INTO KATHY'S CHEST...
KATHY TURNS TO FACE THE TRUE ASSAILANT, LEAPING AT THEM WITH A SCREAM.
HELL OF A WAY TO END A CAREER, ELLIS. CAN'T SAY THIS LOOKS LIKE A HEROINE-TYPE SCENE, EITHER.
...KATHY, PLAYED BY ELLIS BENNET, PLUMMETS WITH THE MURDERER INTO A DRY RAVINE.
...THE AUDIENCE WAS QUITE UNAWARE OF WHO THE TRUE FORCE IN THIS PICTURE WAS.
THE SCROLLING CREDITS HEARALDED A NEW STAR...
...MARIKO KUROSAWA...
AND WHO MIGHT YOU BE?

...KNOWING EVEN YOUR FELLOW ACTORS DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOUR PART.
IT MUST HAVE CRUSHED YOU...

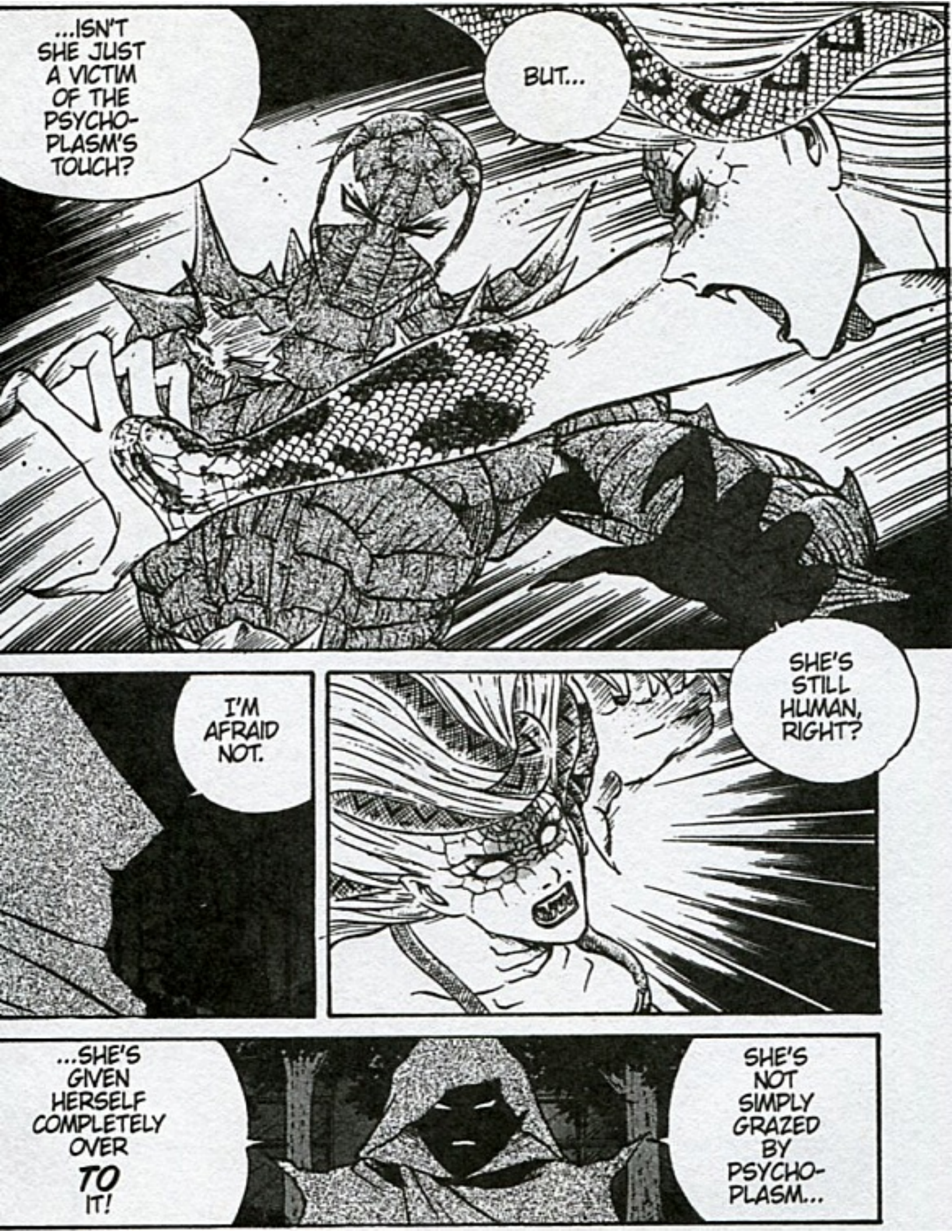
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT *SCRIPT* FROM?
WHO THE ***HELL*** ARE YOU?


CH--
CHEVEYO!
?!

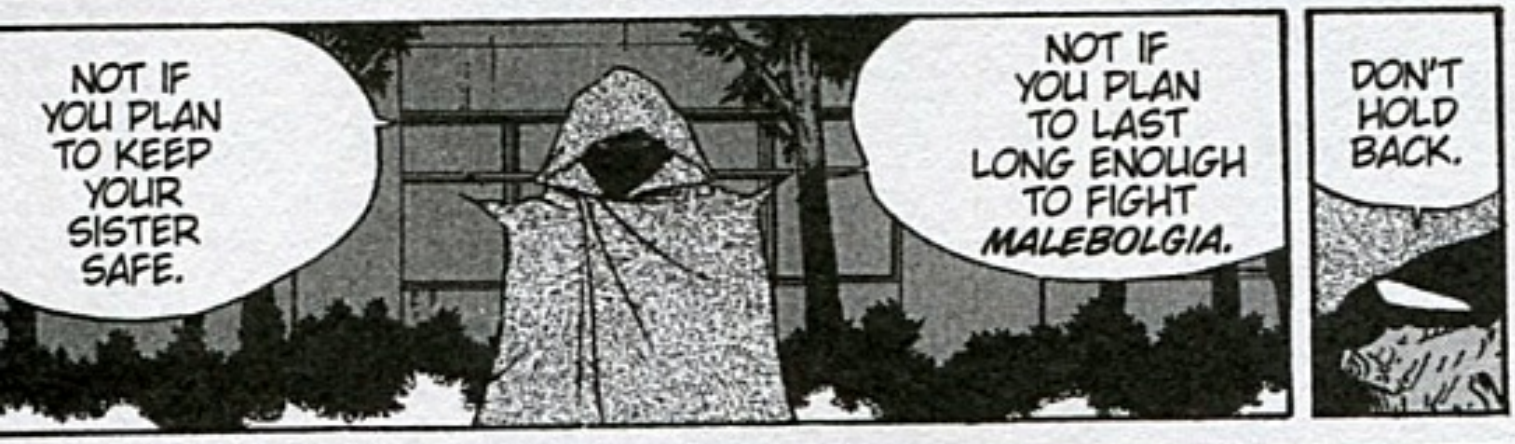
DID YOU COME TO GET IN MY WAY AS WELL?
PHH. YOU ONE OF HIS FRIENDS?

MARIKO'S LITTLE HOSPITAL TRIP WAS IN THE SCRIPT, TOO.
I'M A BIT OF A FILM BUFF MYSELF.

I'LL KILL YOU ALL!!
NOBODY...
...NOBODY WILL STAND IN MY WAY!
GET OFF YOUR ASS AND FINISH THIS CRAZY WOMAN.
YOU STILL SITTING AROUND, SAMURAI KID?
.....
!!
HNH?

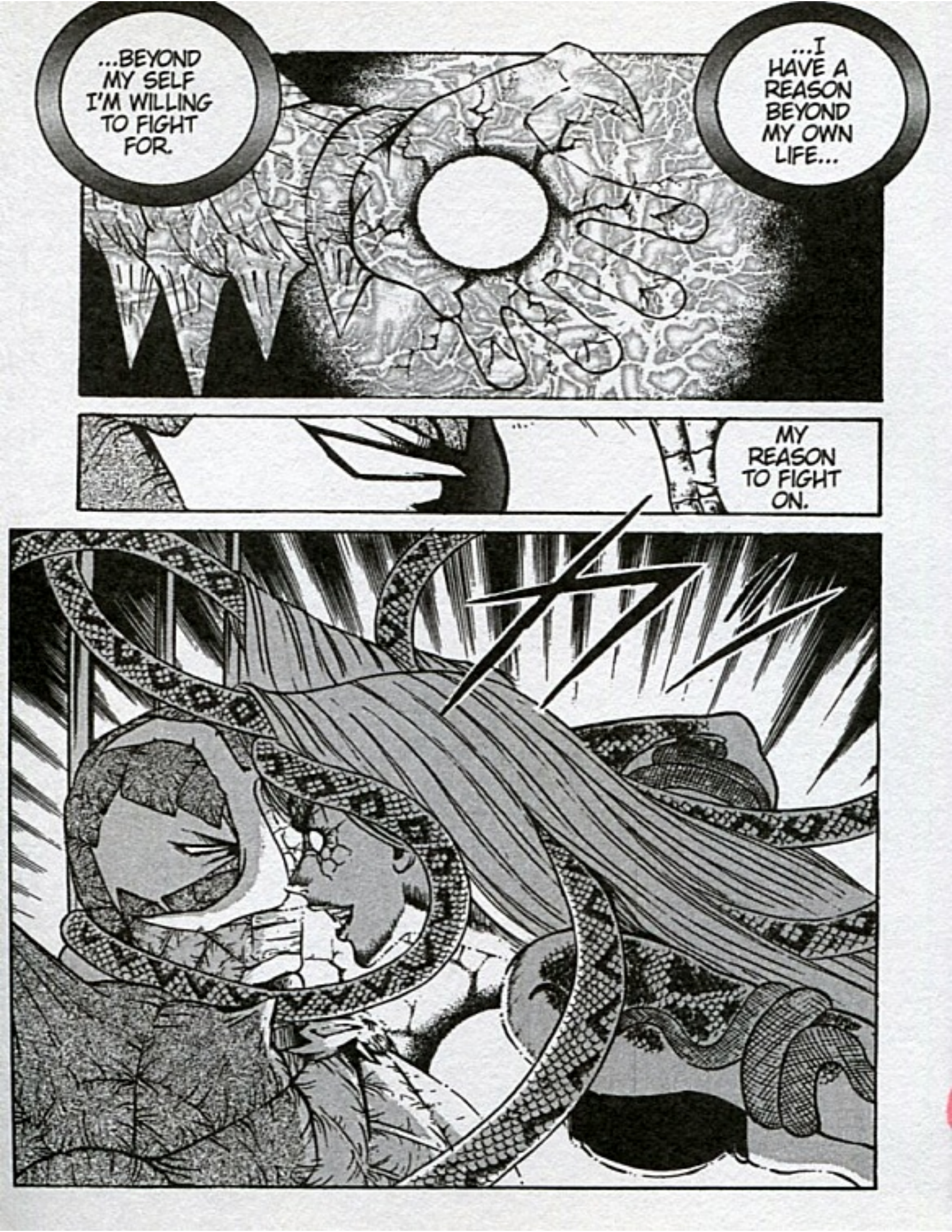

...ISN'T SHE JUST A VICTIM OF THE PSYCHO-PLASM'S TOUCH?
BUT...
I'M AFRAID NOT.
SHE'S STILL HUMAN, RIGHT?
...SHE'S GIVEN HERSELF COMPLETELY OVER TO IT!
SHE'S NOT SIMPLY GRAZED BY PSYCHO-PLASM...

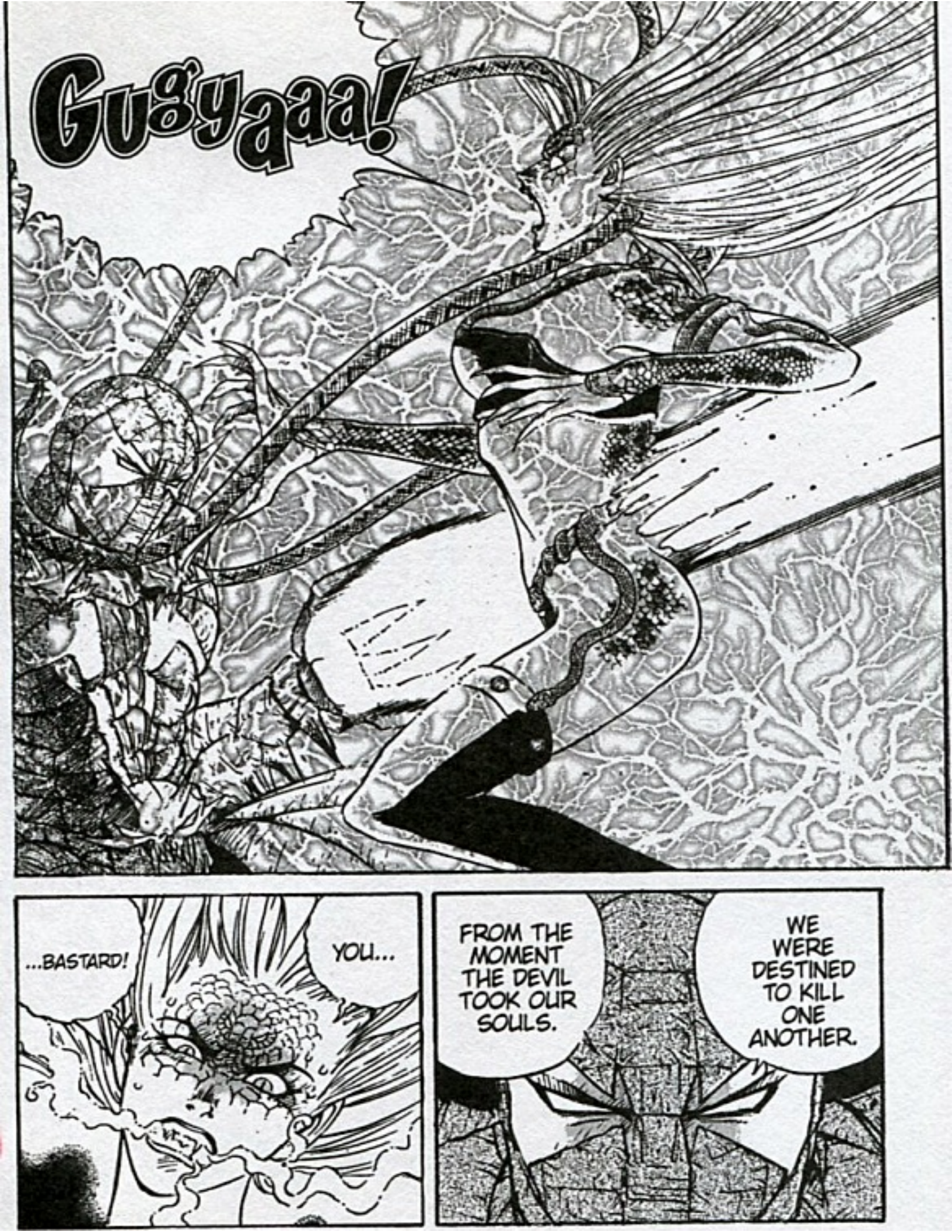
IN PLACE OF *FAME*, SHE NOW WRAPS HERSELF IN *SERPENTS*.
THE WOMAN WHO ONCE WAS IS NO MORE.
?!
WHAT?
SHE'S ALREADY DEAD.
SHE'S ALREADY...
...DEAD?
HiSSSS!
LOOK CAREFULLY, BOY! DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE A **CORPSE** WHEN YOU SEE ONE?!

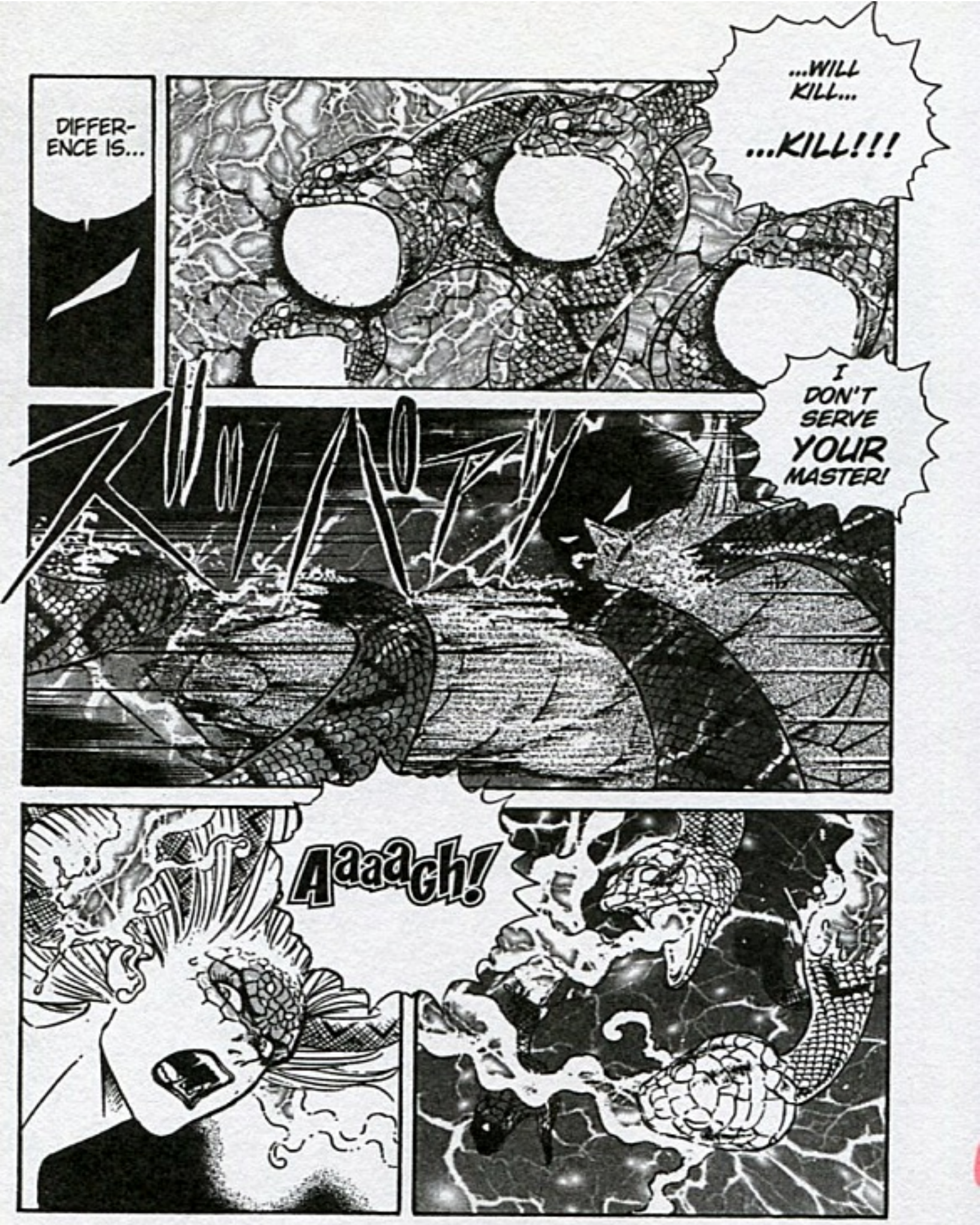

NOT IF YOU PLAN TO KEEP YOUR SISTER SAFE.
NOT IF YOU PLAN TO LAST LONG ENOUGH TO FIGHT *MALEBOLGIA.*
DON'T HOLD BACK.

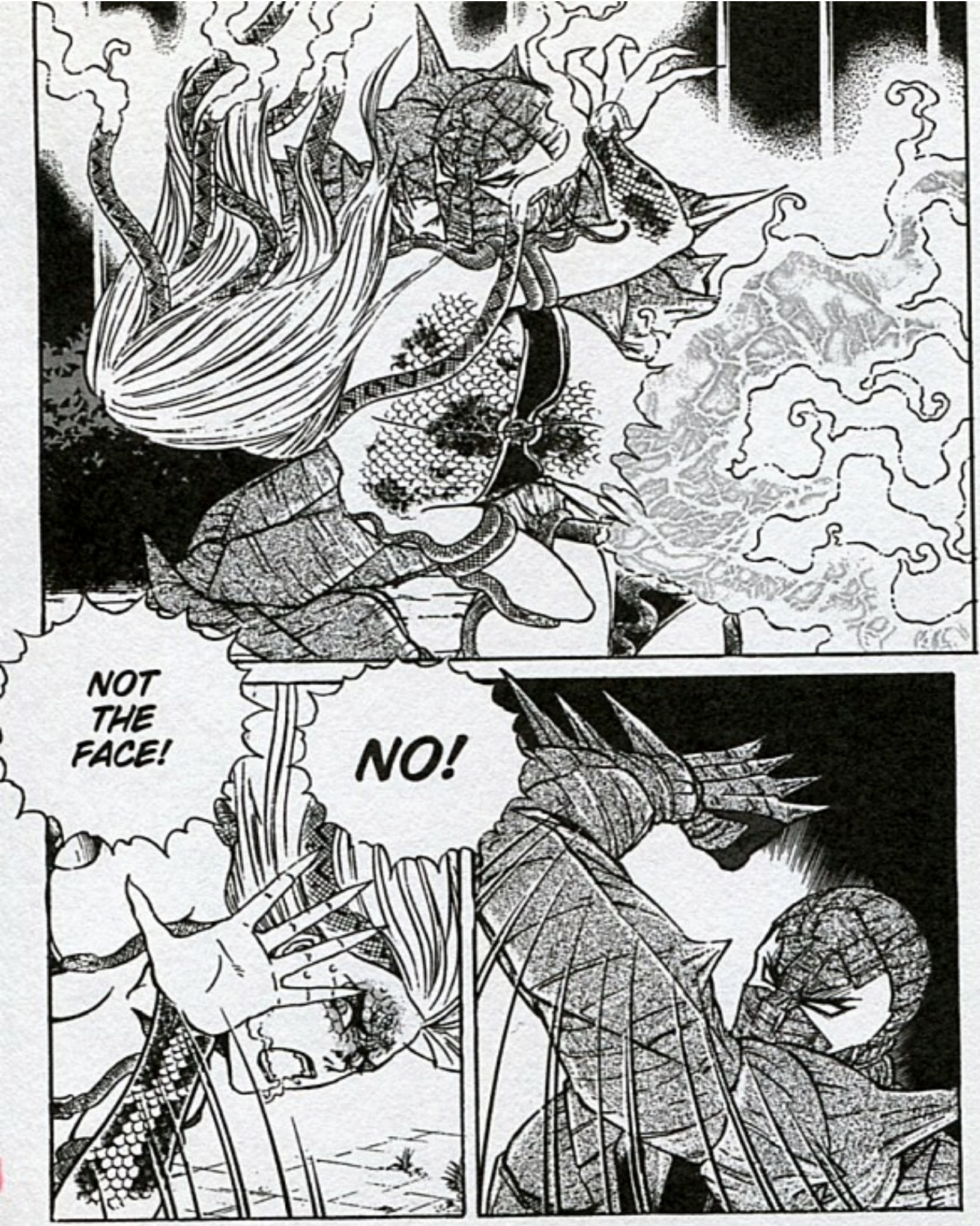
YOU'RE RIGHT.

BECAUSE EVEN I...
ギュオオオ

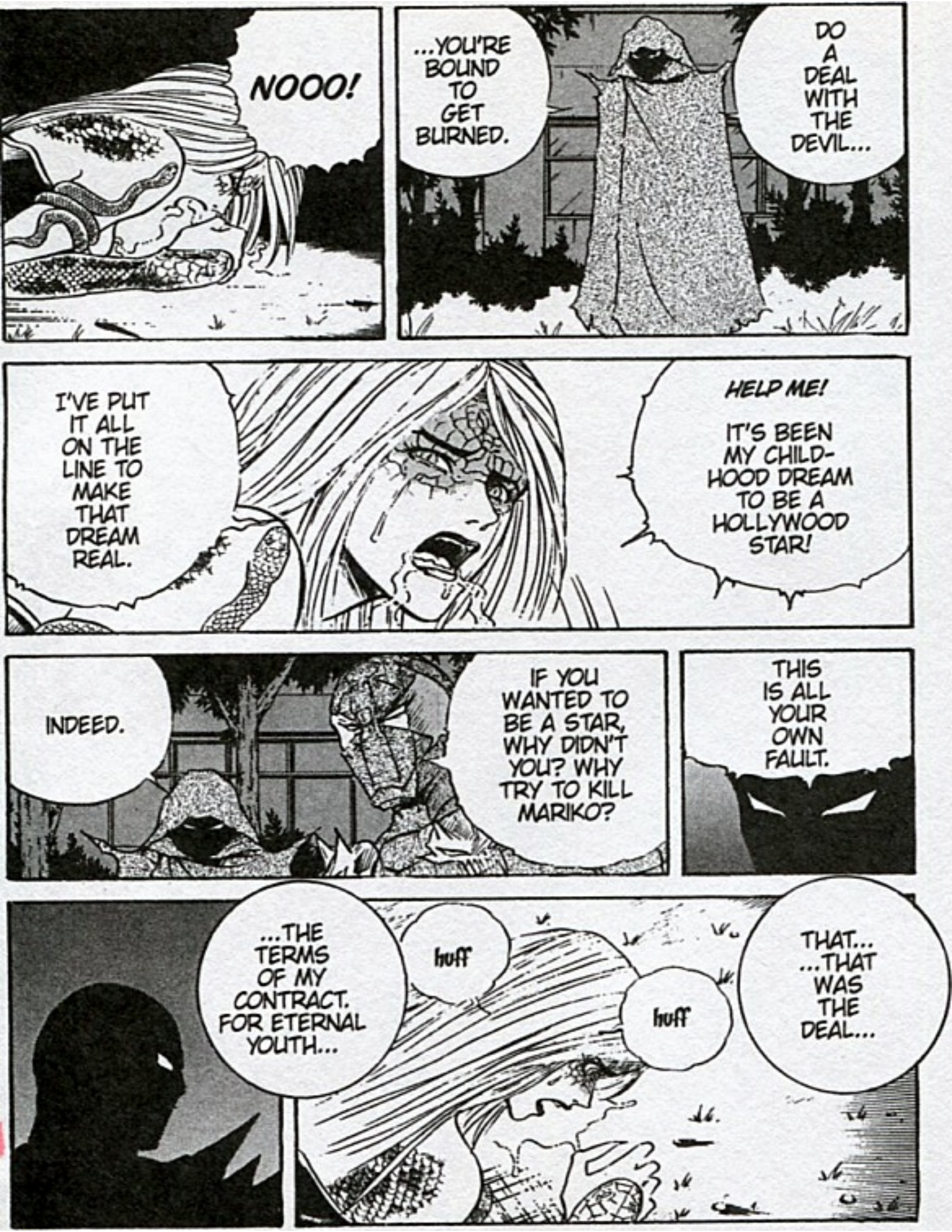

...BEYOND MY SELF I'M WILLING TO FIGHT FOR.
...I HAVE A REASON BEYOND MY OWN LIFE...
MY REASON TO FIGHT ON.


Gugyaaa!
...BASTARD!
YOU...
FROM THE MOMENT THE DEVIL TOOK OUR SOULS.
WE WERE DESTINED TO KILL ONE ANOTHER.


DIFFER-
ENCE IS...
...WILL
KILL...
...KILL!!!
I
DON'T
SERVE
YOUR
MASTER!
KRAK!
Aaaagh!

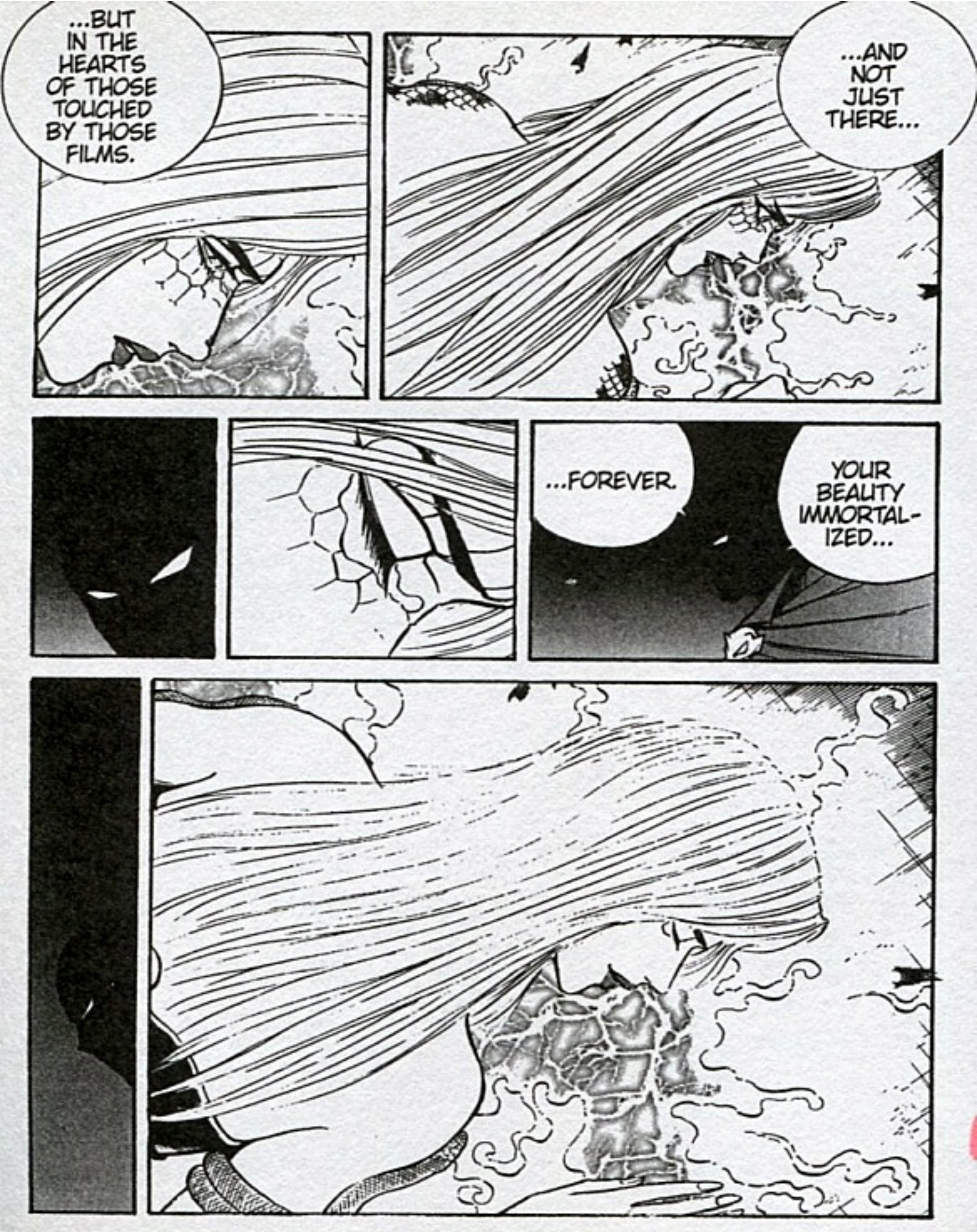

NOT THE FACE!
NO!

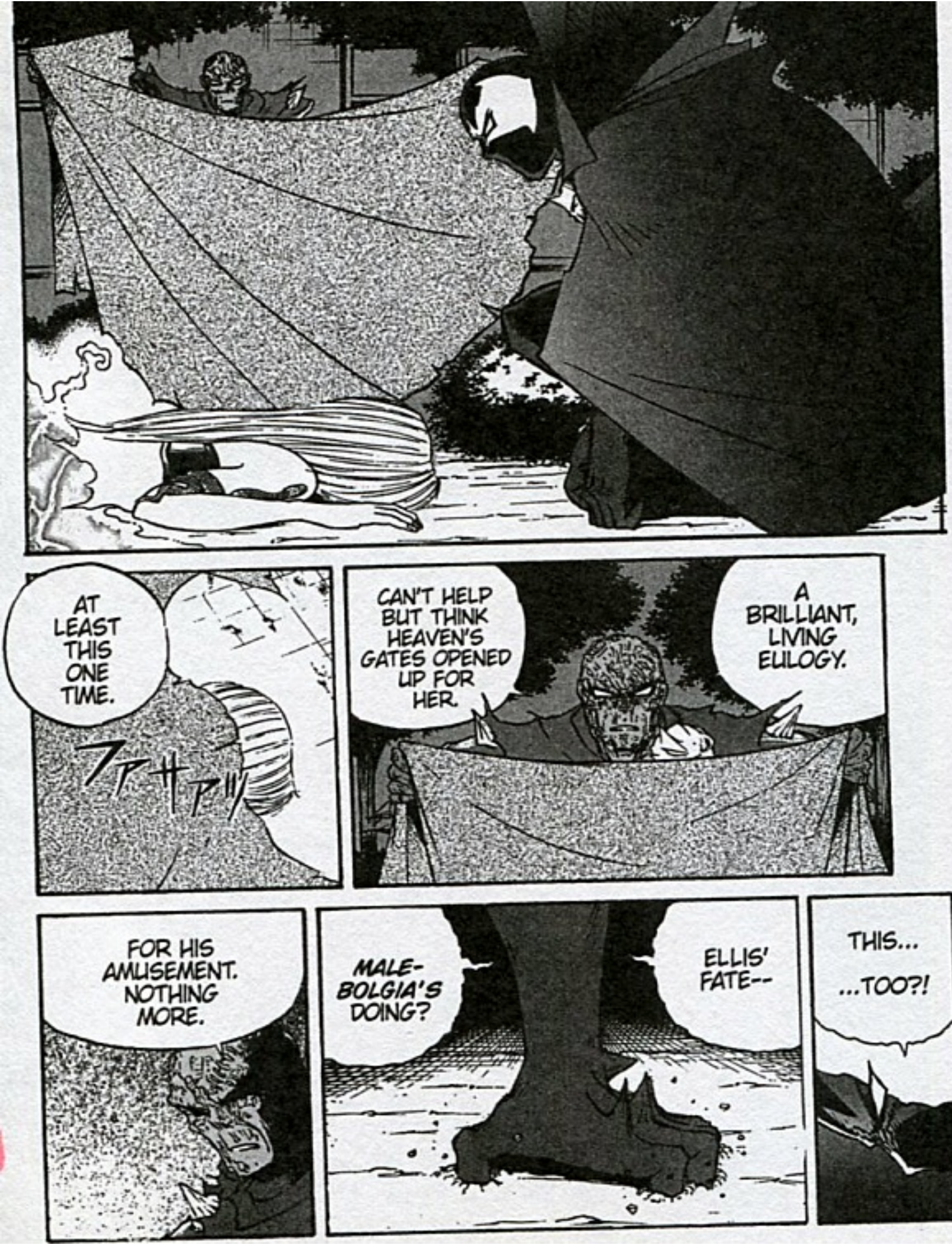
...I'M A WOMAN...
...BE-CAUSE...
...AM I GOING TO DIE? LIKE THIS? NO!
AM I...
mff
hunh
ung
MY TIME... IT WAS SUPPOSED TO START FROM NOW...
I'VE ONLY GOTTEN ONE STARRING ROLE...
NO... IT CAN'T END LIKE THIS. ALL MY WORK.

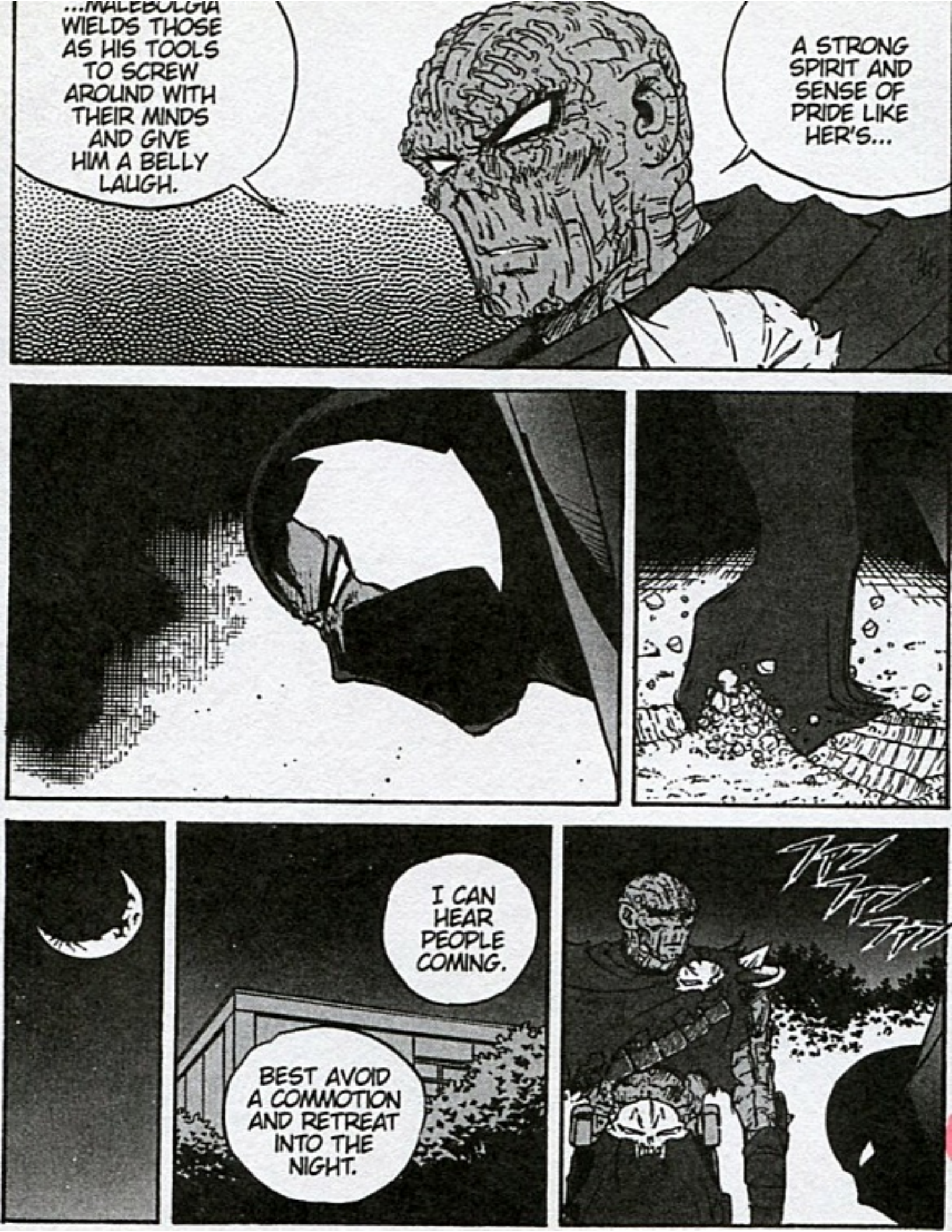

NOOO!
...YOU'RE BOUND TO GET BURNED.
DO A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL...
I'VE PUT IT ALL ON THE LINE TO MAKE THAT DREAM REAL.
HELP ME!
IT'S BEEN MY CHILD-HOOD DREAM TO BE A HOLLYWOOD STAR!
INDEED.
IF YOU WANTED TO BE A STAR, WHY DIDN'T YOU? WHY TRY TO KILL MARIKO?
THIS IS ALL YOUR OWN FAULT.
...THE TERMS OF MY CONTRACT. FOR ETERNAL YOUTH...
huff
huff
THAT... ...THAT WAS THE DEAL...

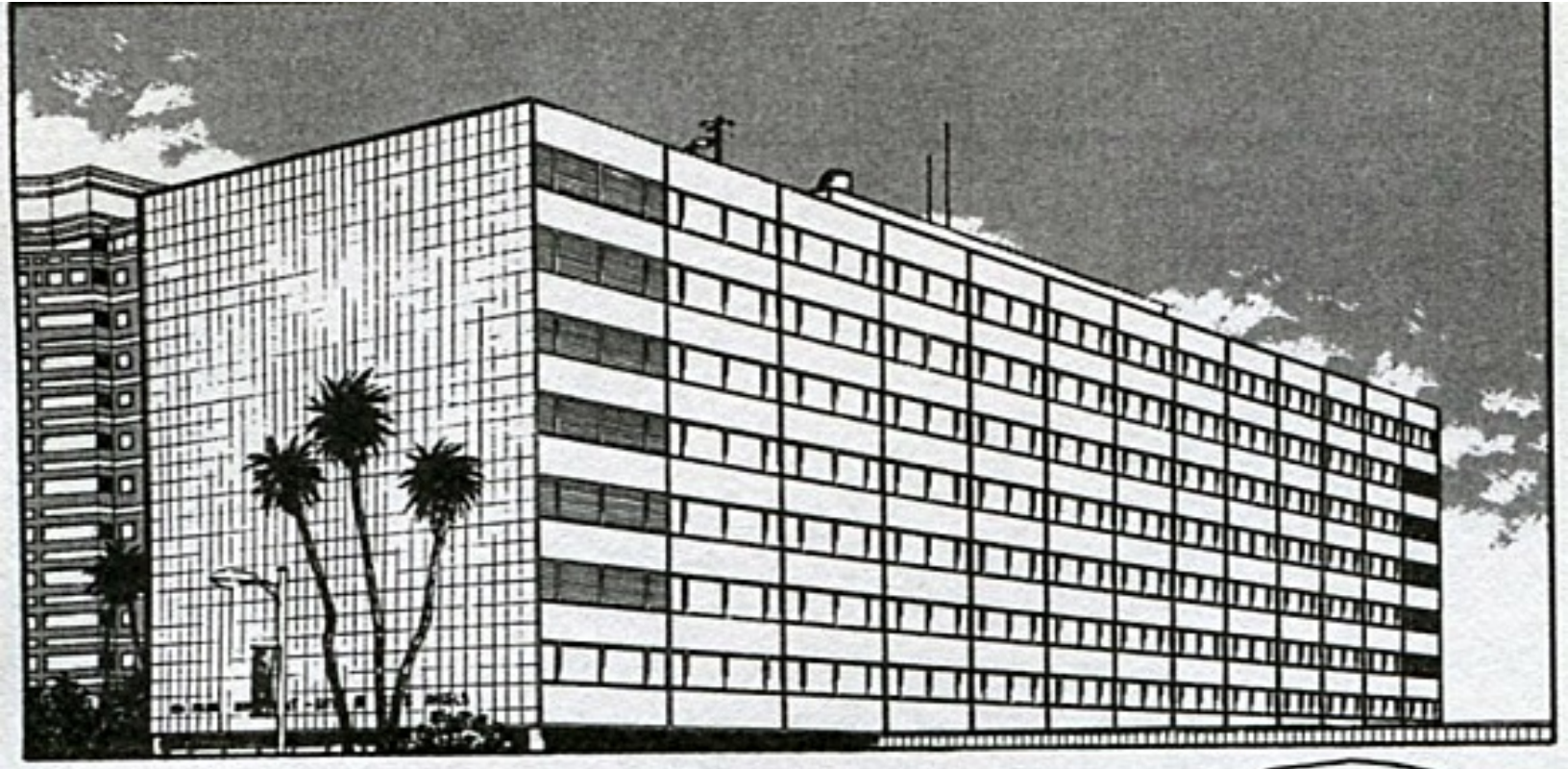
...PLEASE...
...HELP ME...
...YOU WERE MANIPULATED BY MALE-BOLGIA, TOO...
SO YOU...
LETTING HER GO IS FOR HER OWN GOOD.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU? SHE'S A WALKING CORPSE. NOTHING MORE.
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO.
CHEVEYO--
.....
"EYES OF THE WILD-CATS."
IT WAS MY FIRST TASTE OF SUCCESS.
SEVEN YEARS AGO?
SEVEN YEARS AGO. IT WAS YOUR FIRST STARRING ROLE.
I RE-MEMBER SEEING YOUR MOVIE.

THAT'S HOW BRILLIANT YOU WERE.
YES. IT'S AS MEMORABLE TO ME TODAY AS IT WAS THE DAY I SAW IT.
BOTH AS AN ACTRESS AS WELL AS A TRUE ACTION STAR. YOU WERE THE REAL DEAL...
MY KARATE TRAINING GAVE ME A TRUE INSIGHT TO YOUR SKILLS.
YOU'RE FORTUNATE.
YOU...
THANK YOU.
HNH...
BUT YOU HOLLYWOOD STARS...
...YOU LIVE FOREVER...
...ON FILM...
ONE LUCKY SHOT... ONE MISSED HIT... I *DIE*, MY MEMORY FADES INTO NOTHING.


...BUT IN THE HEARTS OF THOSE TOUCHED BY THOSE FILMS.
...AND NOT JUST THERE...
...FOREVER.
YOUR BEAUTY IMMORTAL-IZED...

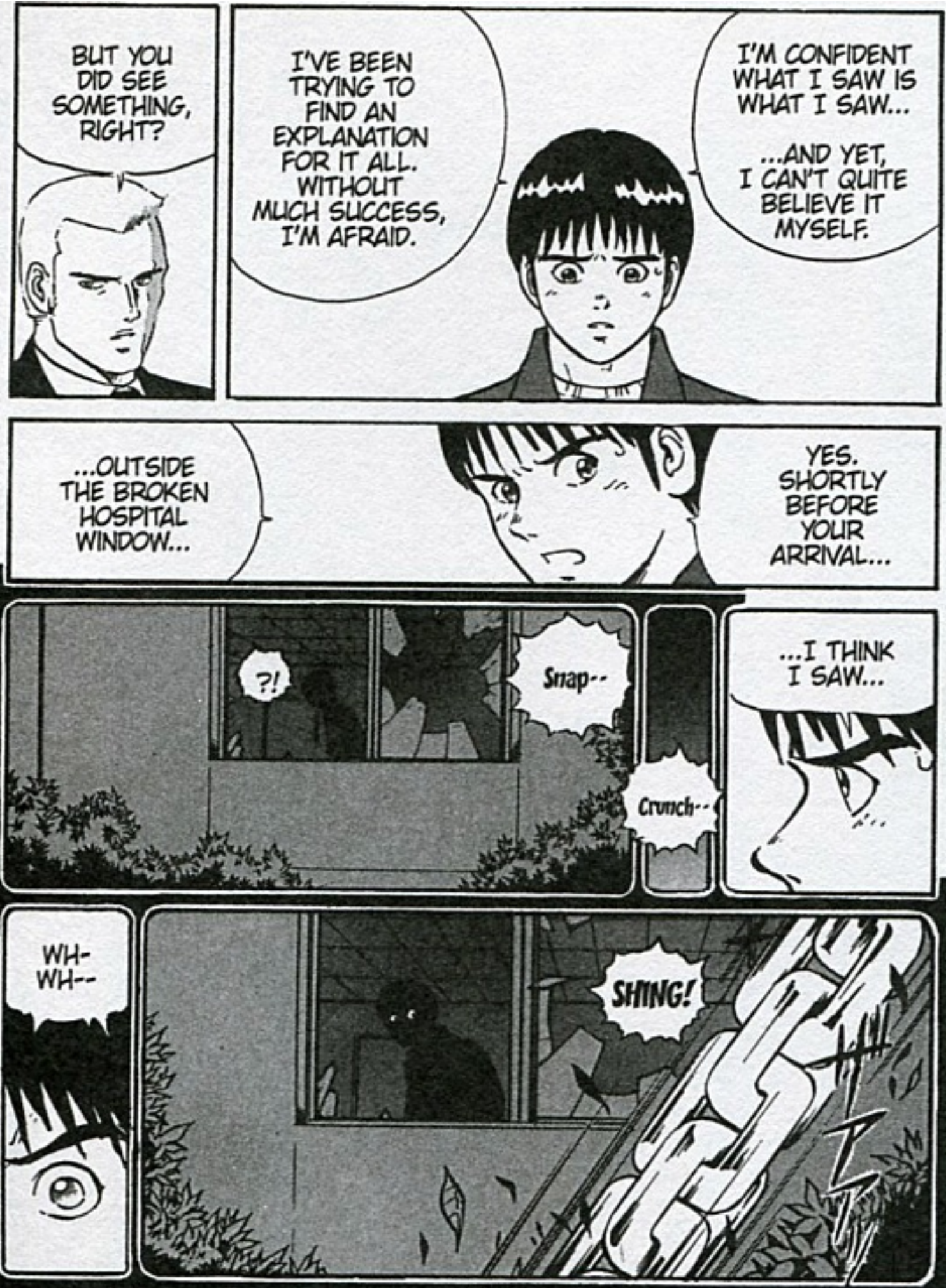

AT LEAST THIS ONE TIME.
CAN'T HELP BUT THINK HEAVEN'S GATES OPENED UP FOR HER.
A BRILLIANT, LIVING EULOGY.
FOR HIS AMUSEMENT. NOTHING MORE.
MALE-BOLGIA'S DOING?
ELLIS' FATE--
THIS...
...TOO?!


...MALEBOLGIA WIELDS THOSE AS HIS TOOLS TO SCREW AROUND WITH THEIR MINDS AND GIVE HIM A BELLY LAUGH.
A STRONG SPIRIT AND SENSE OF PRIDE LIKE HER'S...
I CAN HEAR PEOPLE COMING.
BEST AVOID A COMMOTION AND RETREAT INTO THE NIGHT.



HOLLYWOOD'S FULL OF THE RICH AND THE INFLUENTIAL. THEY DON'T WANT NEWS LIKE THIS TO SCARE THEM OFF.
Los Angeles Ti
COLUMN ONE
Looking for a 'Middle Way'
WELL, AT LEAST THE PRESS IS COOPERATING FOR THE MOMENT ABOUT THIS NASTY BUSINESS.

IF SHE FINDS OUT MS. BENNET WAS KILLED AFTER VISITING HER... THE SHOCK WOULD BE TOO MUCH, I THINK.
OF COURSE, SIR. I'M HOPEFUL THIS NEWS DOESN'T SOMEHOW GET TO MARIKO INSIDE THE HOSPITAL.
FORGIVE US FOR YOUR DETENTION, BUT WE'D ASK YOU DON'T SHARE WHAT YOU SAW IN FROM THE GARDEN WITH ANYONE.


BUT YOU DID SEE SOMETHING, RIGHT?
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO FIND AN EXPLANATION FOR IT ALL. WITHOUT MUCH SUCCESS, I'M AFRAID.
I'M CONFIDENT WHAT I SAW IS WHAT I SAW...
...AND YET, I CAN'T QUITE BELIEVE IT MYSELF.
...OUTSIDE THE BROKEN HOSPITAL WINDOW...
YES. SHORTLY BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL...
?!
Snap--
Crunch--
...I THINK I SAW...
WH-WH--
SHING!

WHAT IS THAT?!
AAA-- WHA-WHA--

...WEARS A RED CAPE AND MONO-TONE MASK.

CRAZY?

SOMEONE USING CHAIN-LIKE DEVICES TO EASILY LEAP OVER THREE METERS AND CLEAR AN IRON-RAIL FENCE...

KIND OF CRAZY, HUH?

THAT'S WHAT I SAW.

WELL, IF YOU'RE THAT CERTAIN, THEN THE PATTERN IS BECOMING CLEAR.

HMMMM. I WAS AFRAID OF THAT.

I STAND BY IT, SIR.

...AND THIS IS THE SAME M.O. AS THE SERIAL KILLER!

EVERYTHING REVOLVES AROUND MARIKO KUROSAWA...

Times

Sunday Final

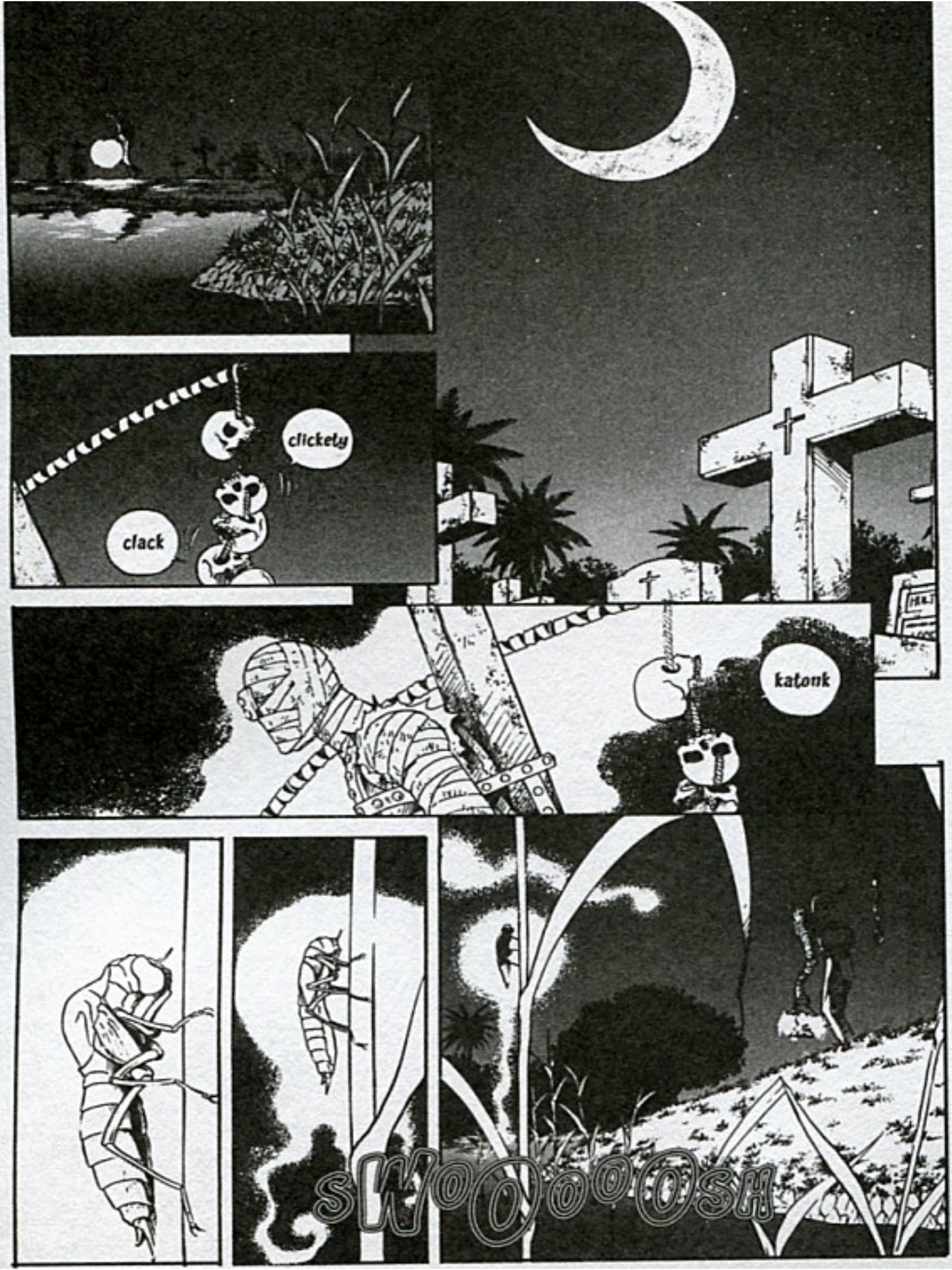
Actress hit-and-run accident !!

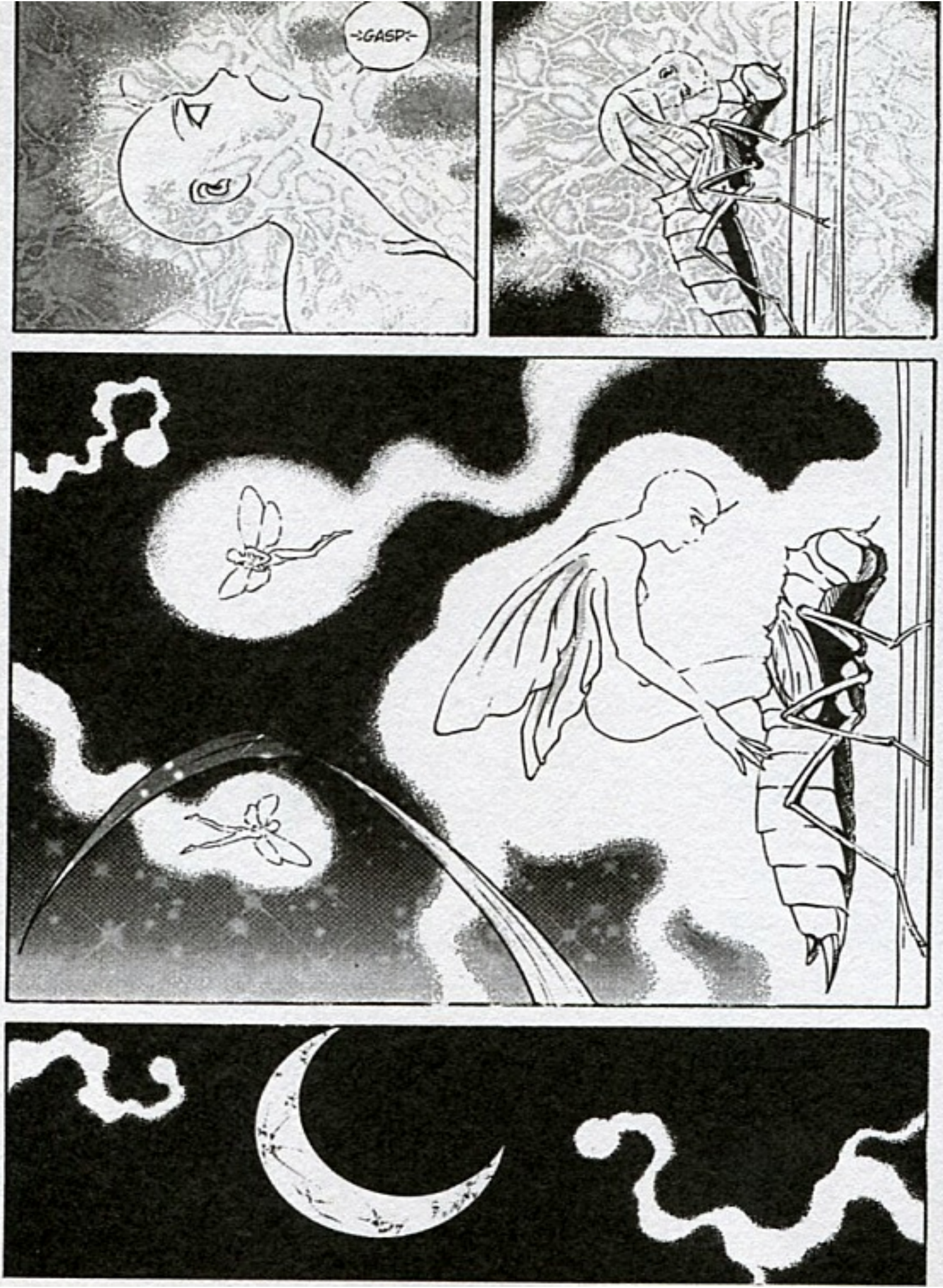
Ellis Bennett during the activity died as an expert's action actress in the hospital of Los Angeles city. It is said that

ESS MURI

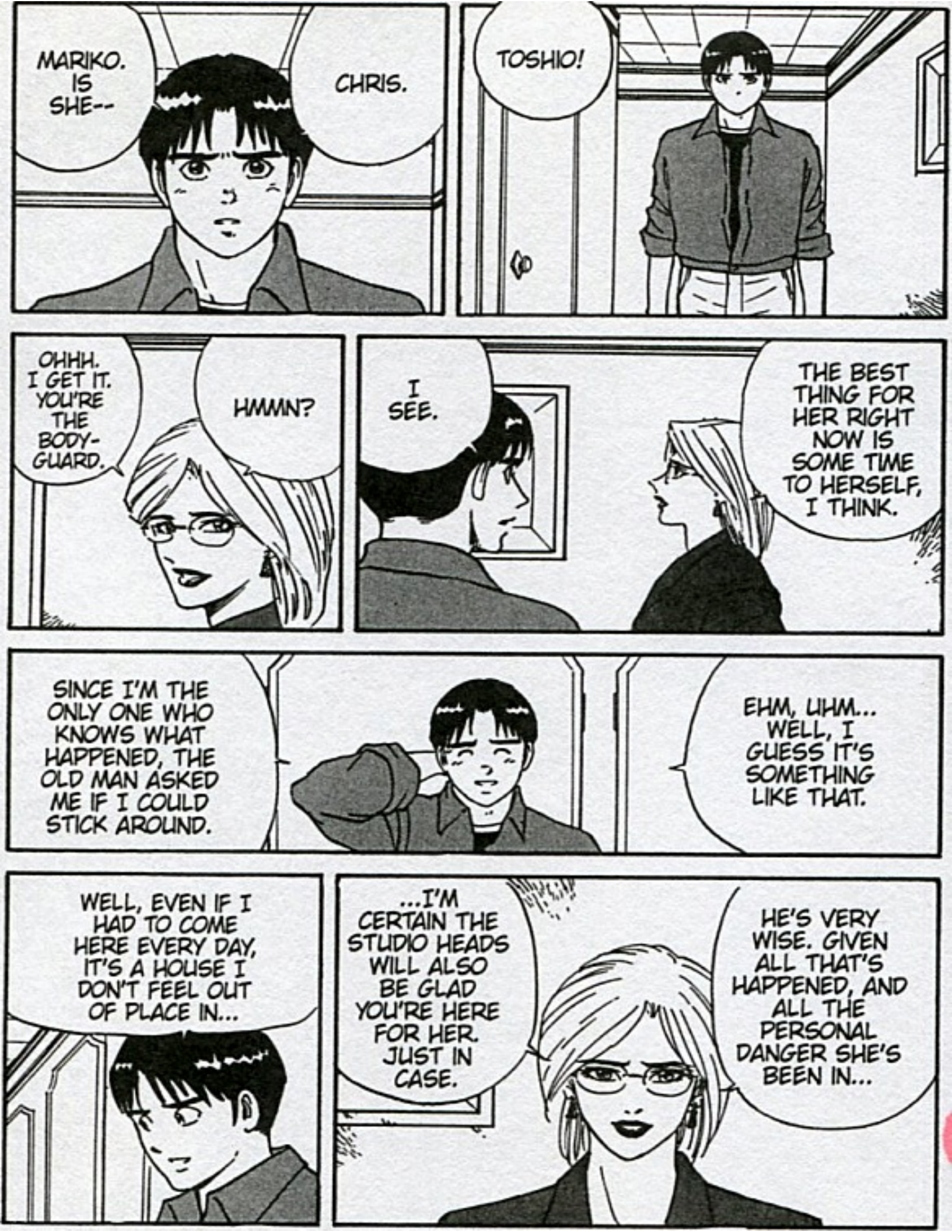
Doctor Carter who was the authority of a study of Egyp was killed. A criminal breaks into the doctor house by the mask an the figure of the mantl and kills a doctor in th study It ran away from

EPISODE.13 THE END OF THE CENTURY ―世紀末―

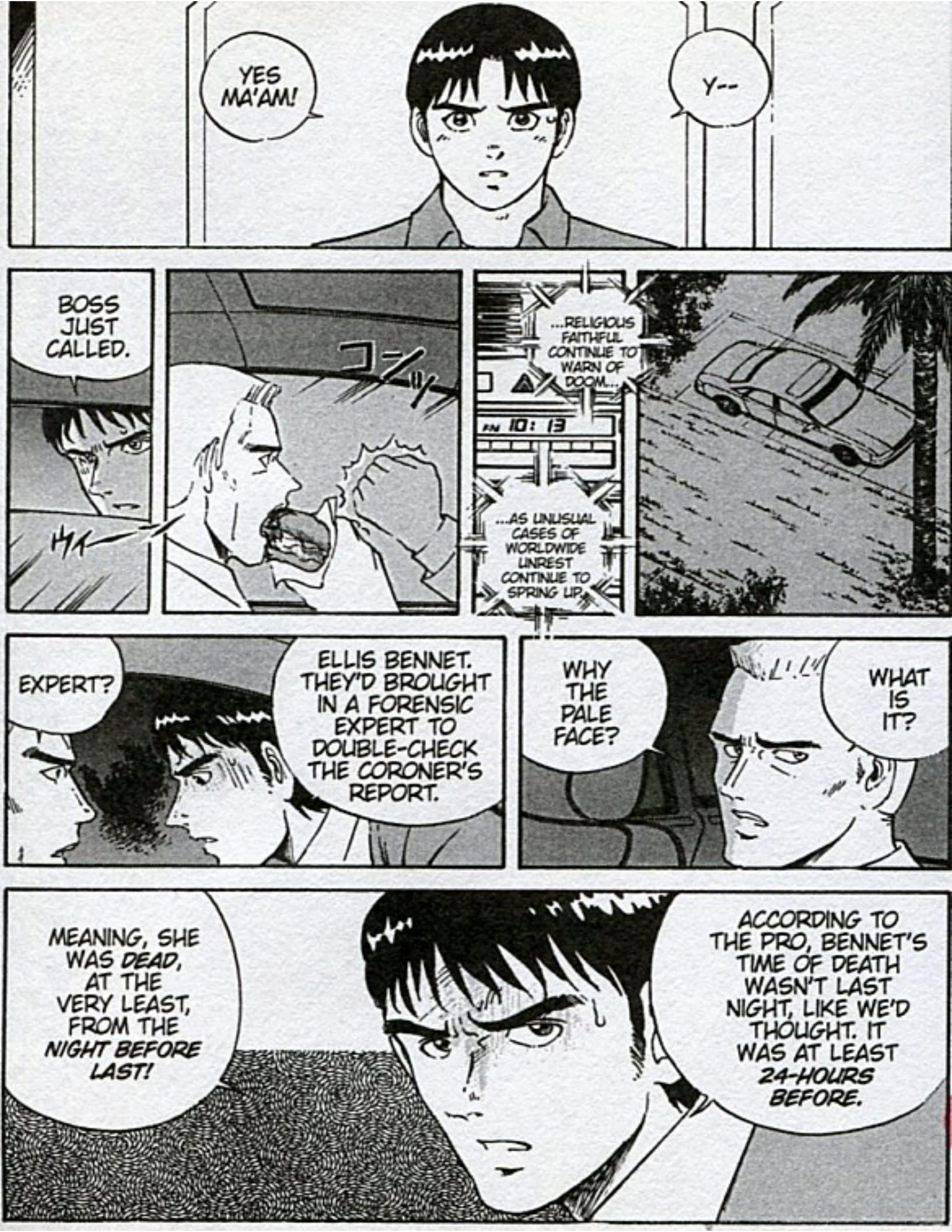

clickety
clack
katonk
SWOOOOSH

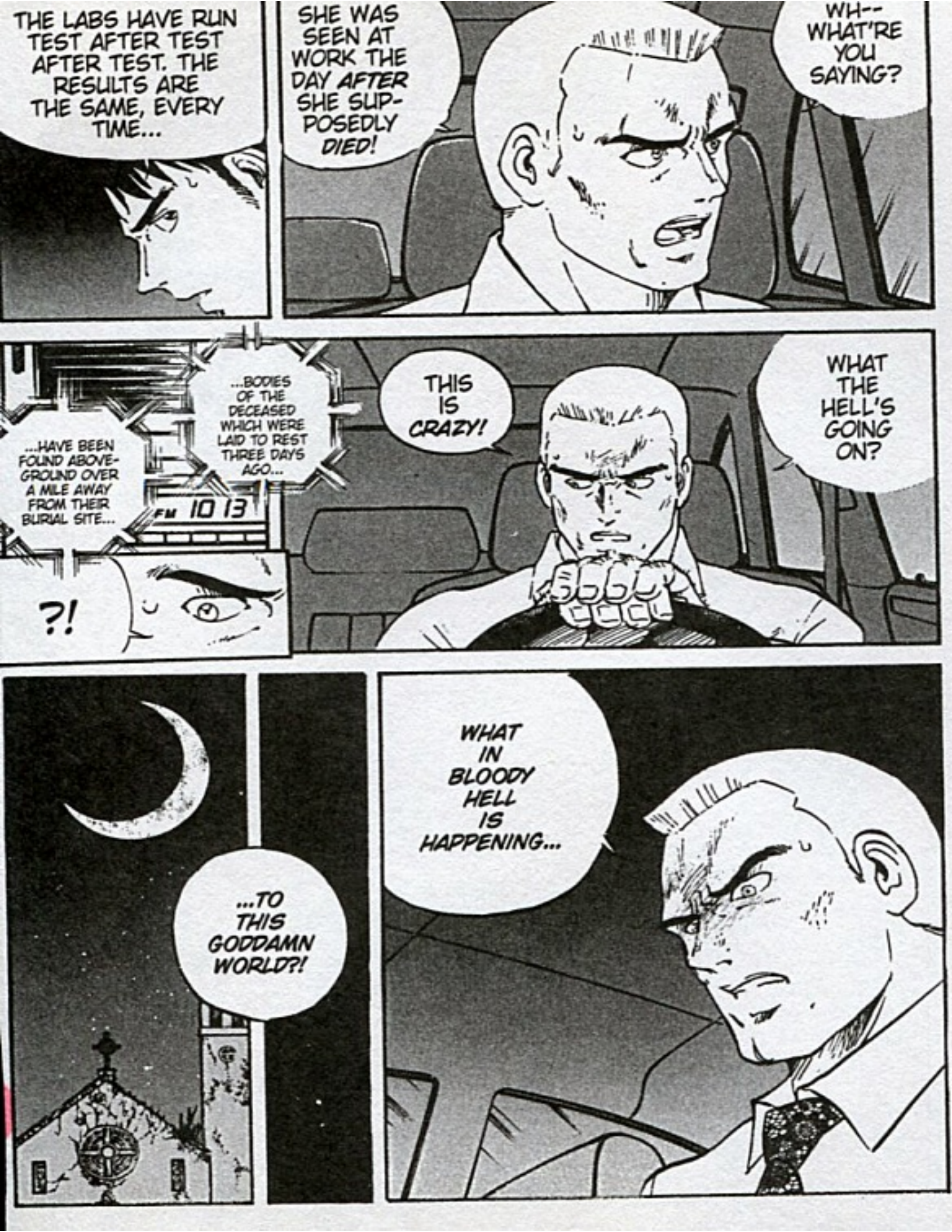

-:GASP:-

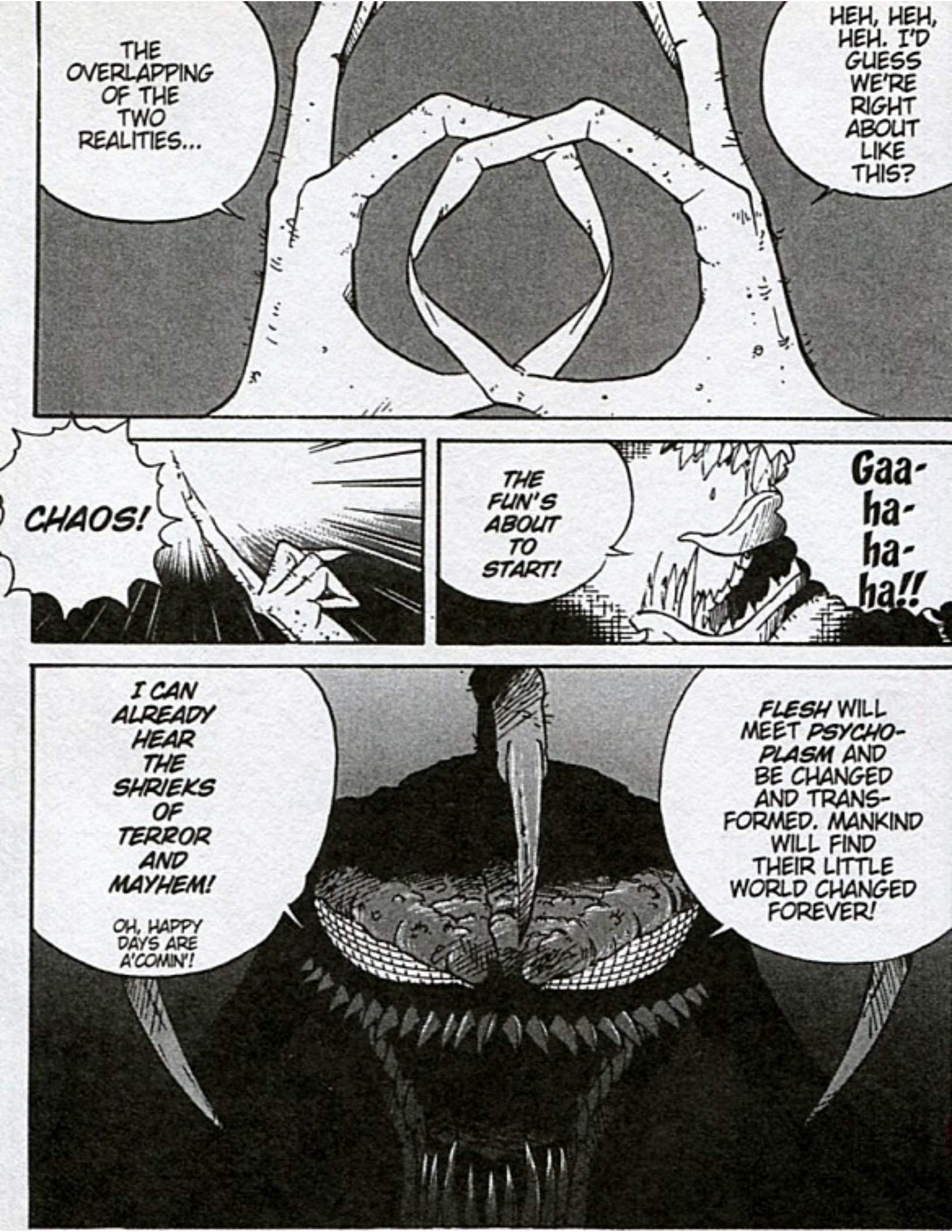
ELLIS...
...IF SHE HADN'T COME TO VISIT...
I KNOW... SORRY, CHRIS...
...BUT CAN YOU LEAVE ME ALONE FOR A WHILE?
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE. YOU KNOW--
I UNDER-STAND.
.....
!

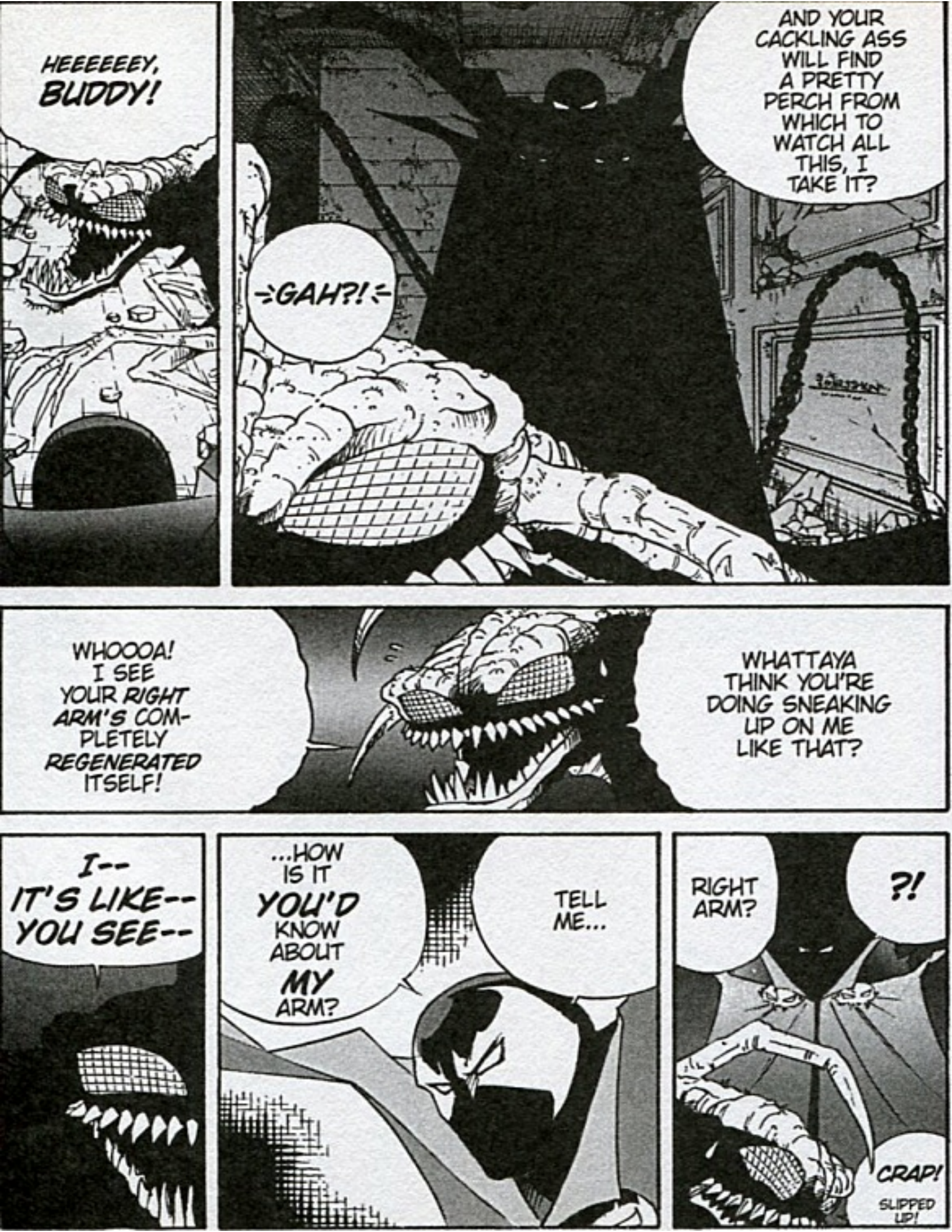

MARIKO. IS SHE--
CHRIS.
TOSHIO!
OHHH. I GET IT. YOU'RE THE BODY-GUARD.
HMMN?
I SEE.
THE BEST THING FOR HER RIGHT NOW IS SOME TIME TO HERSELF, I THINK.
SINCE I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED, THE OLD MAN ASKED ME IF I COULD STICK AROUND.
EHM, UHM... WELL, I GUESS IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
WELL, EVEN IF I HAD TO COME HERE EVERY DAY, IT'S A HOUSE I DON'T FEEL OUT OF PLACE IN...
...I'M CERTAIN THE STUDIO HEADS WILL ALSO BE GLAD YOU'RE HERE FOR HER. JUST IN CASE.
HE'S VERY WISE. GIVEN ALL THAT'S HAPPENED, AND ALL THE PERSONAL DANGER SHE'S BEEN IN...

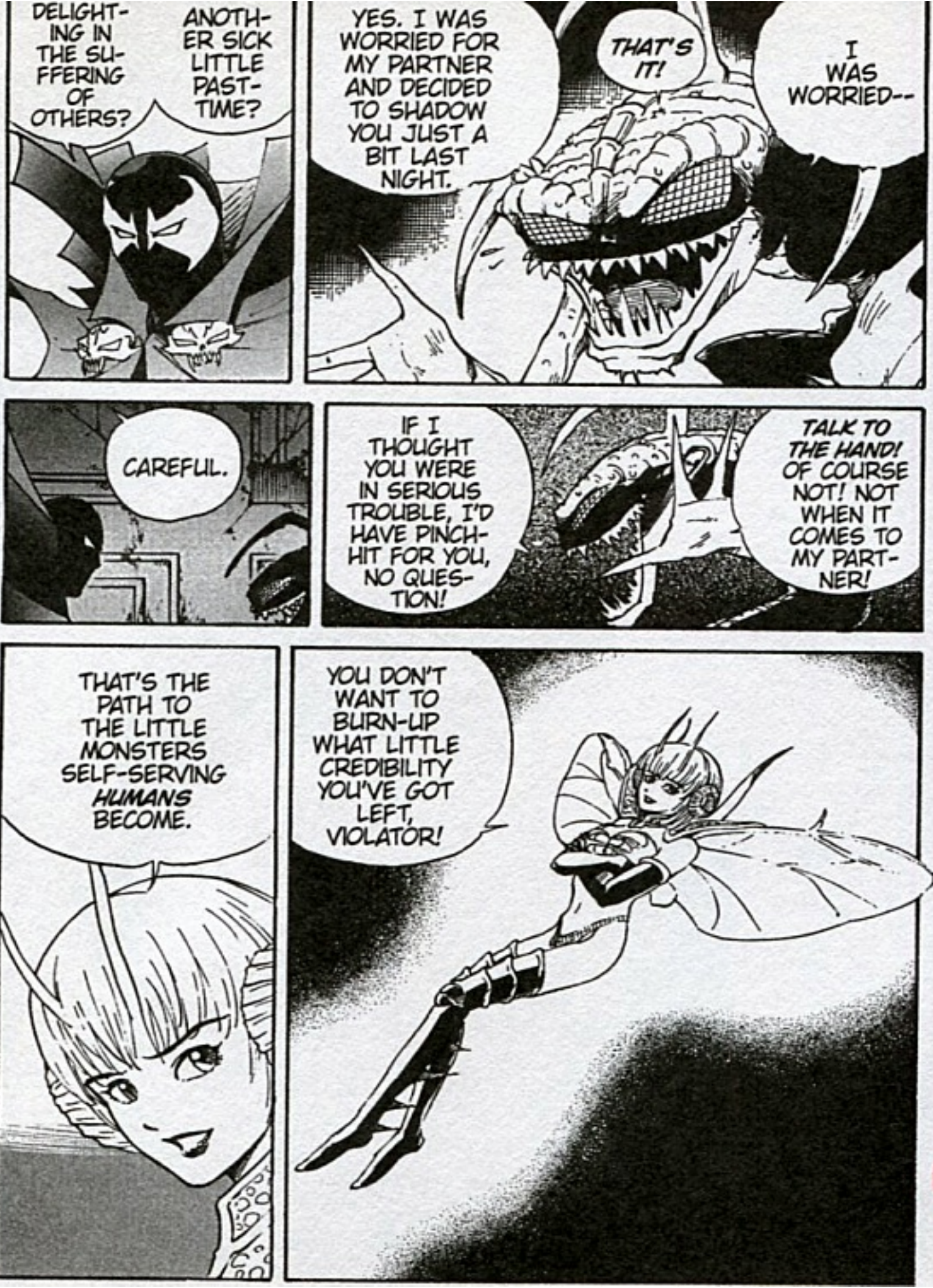
EVEN IF JUST IN SPIRIT, I WOULDN'T MIND AT ALL BEING HER BODYGUARD IS ALL I MEANT.
EH? UHM, NO. I MEAN--
MARIKO'S LUCKY TO HAVE SOMEONE WILLING TO SHOW-UP TO HIS POST, DAY AFTER DAY!
BE CAREFUL, TOSHIO.
ALL JOKING ASIDE--
OF COURSE.
EVEN WITH THE POLICE OUTSIDE...
THIS IS NO GAME.
THIS *HOMICIDAL MANIAC* PLAINLY DOESN'T INTEND TO STOP UNTIL HE'S ACHIEVED WHATEVER SICK PLANS HE'S SET OUT TO DO.
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMEONE WHO'S BEEN ABLE TO GET WITHIN A HAIR'S BREATH AWAY FROM MARIKO. HE'S KILLED TWO ALREADY.


YES MA'AM!
Y--
BOSS JUST CALLED.
...RELIGIOUS FAITHFUL CONTINUE TO WARN OF DOOM...
FRI 10: 13
...AS UNUSUAL CASES OF WORLDWIDE UNREST CONTINUE TO SPRING UP.
EXPERT?
ELLIS BENNET. THEY'D BROUGHT IN A FORENSIC EXPERT TO DOUBLE-CHECK THE CORONER'S REPORT.
WHY THE PALE FACE?
WHAT IS IT?
MEANING, SHE WAS *DEAD*, AT THE VERY LEAST, FROM THE *NIGHT BEFORE LAST!*
ACCORDING TO THE PRO, BENNET'S TIME OF DEATH WASN'T LAST NIGHT, LIKE WE'D THOUGHT. IT WAS AT LEAST *24-HOURS BEFORE.*

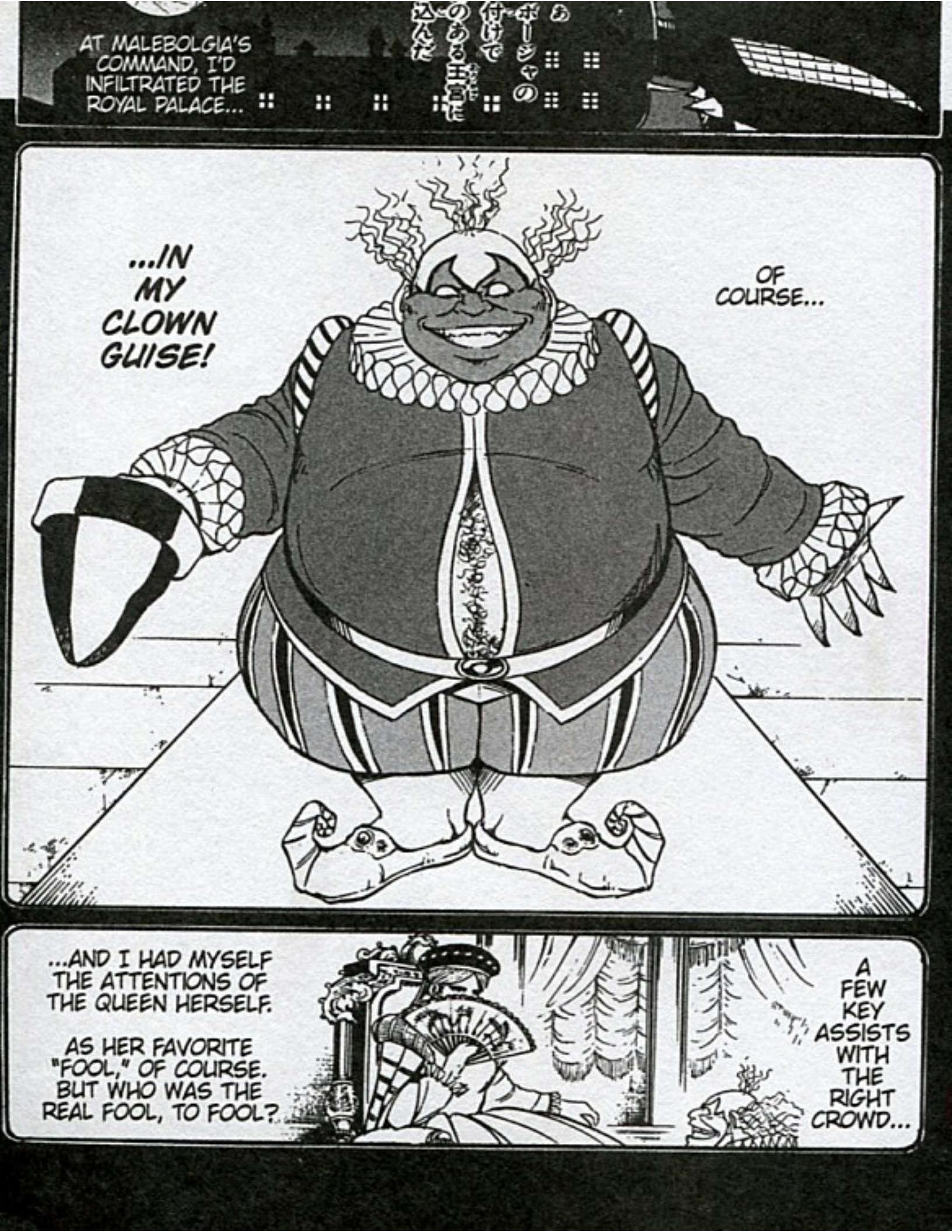

THE LABS HAVE RUN TEST AFTER TEST AFTER TEST. THE RESULTS ARE THE SAME, EVERY TIME...
SHE WAS SEEN AT WORK THE DAY AFTER SHE SUPPOSEDLY DIED!
WH-- WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?
...BODIES OF THE DECEASED WHICH WERE LAID TO REST THREE DAYS AGO...
...HAVE BEEN FOUND ABOVE-GROUND OVER A MILE AWAY FROM THEIR BURIAL SITE...
FM 10 13
?!
THIS IS CRAZY!
WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?
...TO THIS GODDAMN WORLD?!
WHAT IN BLOODY HELL IS HAPPENING...

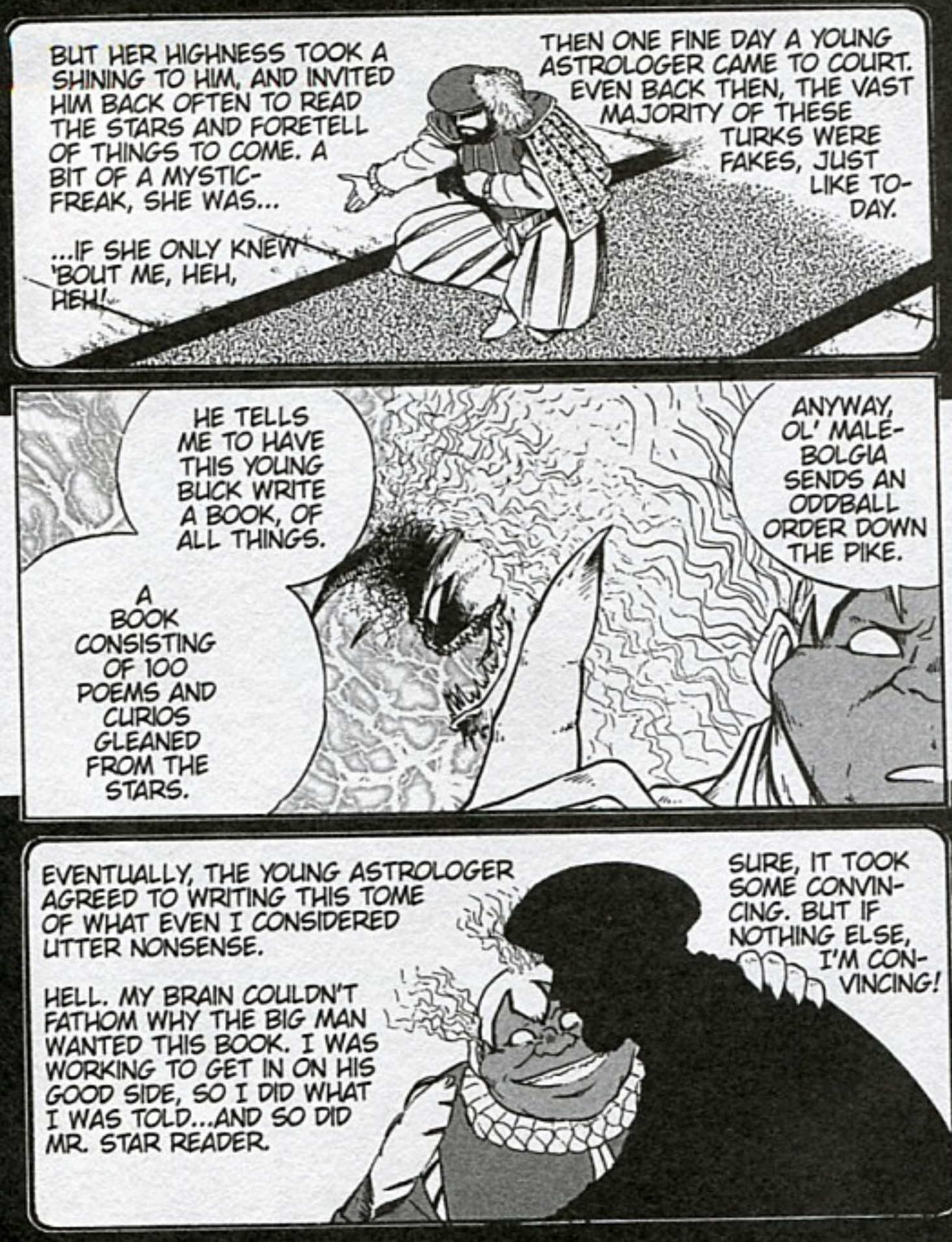

THE OVERLAPPING OF THE TWO REALITIES...
HEH, HEH, HEH. I'D GUESS WE'RE RIGHT ABOUT LIKE THIS?
CHAOS!
THE FUN'S ABOUT TO START!
Gaa-ha-ha-ha!!
I CAN ALREADY HEAR THE SHRIEKS OF TERROR AND MAYHEM!
OH, HAPPY DAYS ARE A'COMIN'!
FLESH WILL MEET *PSYCHO-PLASM* AND BE CHANGED AND TRANS-FORMED. MANKIND WILL FIND THEIR LITTLE WORLD CHANGED FOREVER!

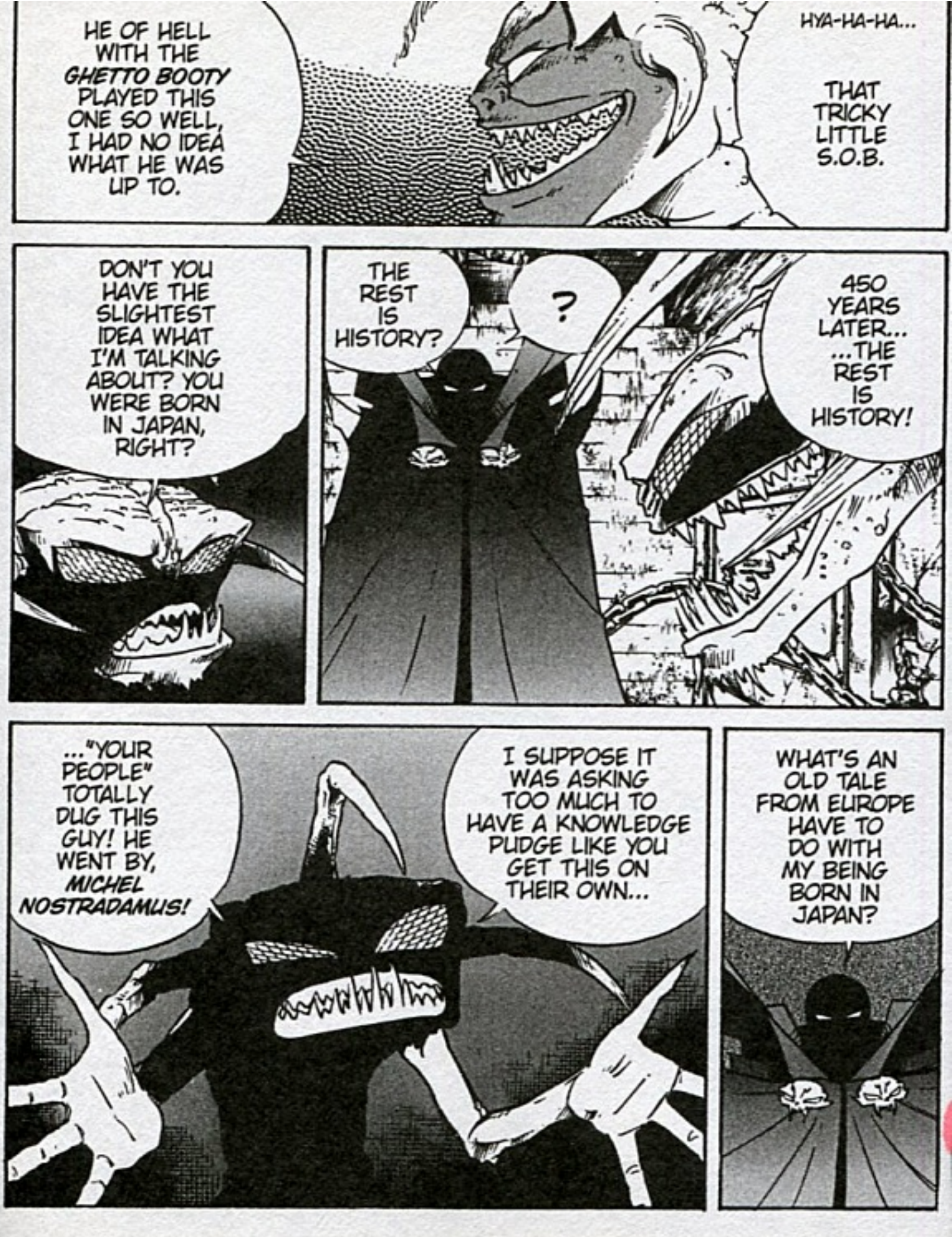

HEEEEEEY, BUDDY!
AND YOUR CACKLING ASS WILL FIND A PRETTY PERCH FROM WHICH TO WATCH ALL THIS, I TAKE IT?
=GAH?!=
WHOOOA! I SEE YOUR RIGHT ARM'S COMPLETELY REGENERATED ITSELF!
WHATTAYA THINK YOU'RE DOING SNEAKING UP ON ME LIKE THAT?
I-- IT'S LIKE-- YOU SEE--
...HOW IS IT YOU'D KNOW ABOUT MY ARM?
TELL ME...
RIGHT ARM?
?!
CRAP!
SLIPPED UP!

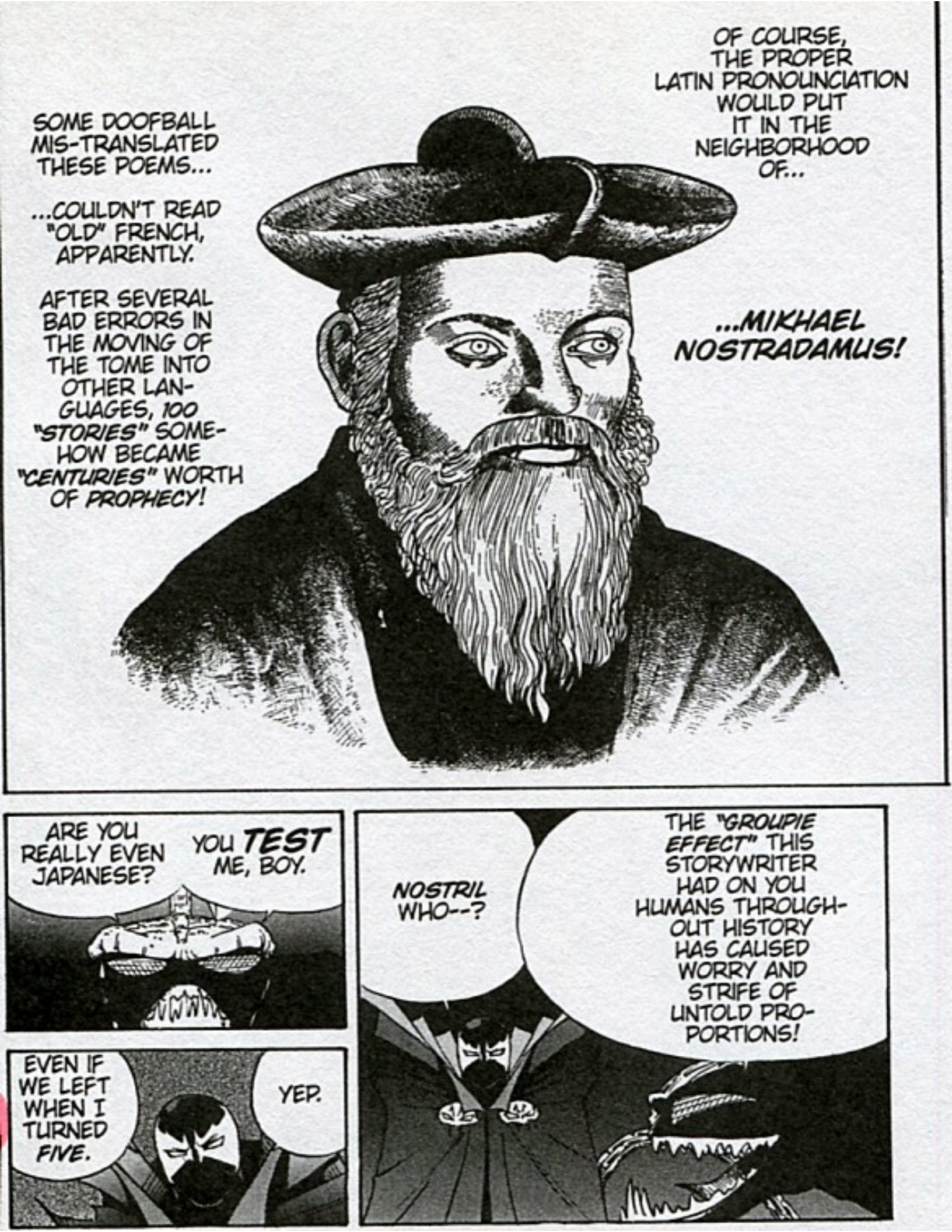

DELIGHTING IN THE SUFFERING OF OTHERS?
ANOTHER SICK LITTLE PASTTIME?
YES. I WAS WORRIED FOR MY PARTNER AND DECIDED TO SHADOW YOU JUST A BIT LAST NIGHT.
THAT'S IT!
I WAS WORRIED--
CAREFUL.
IF I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN SERIOUS TROUBLE, I'D HAVE PINCH-HIT FOR YOU, NO QUESTION!
TALK TO THE HAND! OF COURSE NOT! NOT WHEN IT COMES TO MY PARTNER!
THAT'S THE PATH TO THE LITTLE MONSTERS SELF-SERVING HUMANS BECOME.
YOU DON'T WANT TO BURN-UP WHAT LITTLE CREDIBILITY YOU'VE GOT LEFT, VIOLATOR!

THERE ARE MANY WHO FALL INTO THAT LACK OF TRUST AND CREDIBILITY, WITHOUT A DOUBT.
"LITTLE MONSTERS HUMANS BECOME..."
SHADDUP! DON'T BE OPENING YOUR MOUTH WHERE IT'S NOT INVITED!
BEE? IT'S BEEN AWHILE!
I WILL NOT HAVE TWO, IMPUDENT LITTLE CHATTERBOXES MOCKING THE TOP OF THE PHLEBIAC CHAIN!
QUIET! QUIET! QUIET! QUIET!
IT WAS WHEN I WAS BUT A WEE 400 YEARS OLD. WELL BEFORE I CAME TO THIS COUNTRY.
HEH. YOU WANT TO TALK SMACK? LIKEN ME TO YOU SORRY HUMANS? THEN LET ME TELL YOU A STORY. A VERY FUN, ENLIGHTENING STORY. WE'LL SEE WHO THE REAL FOOLS ARE!

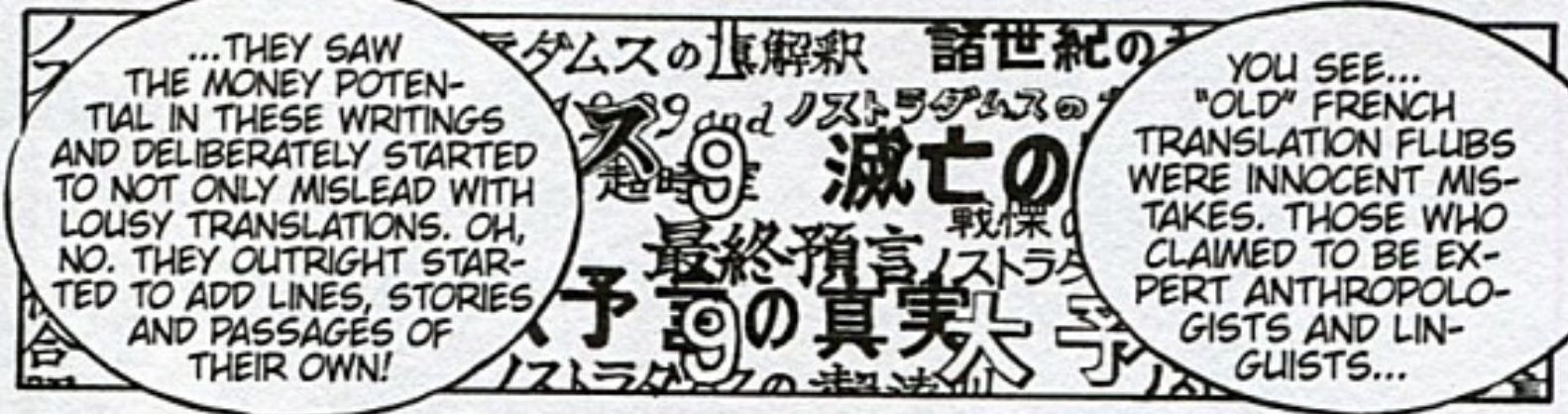

AT MALEBOLGIA'S COMMAND, I'D INFILTRATED THE ROYAL PALACE...
...IN MY CLOWN GUISE!
OF COURSE...
...AND I HAD MYSELF THE ATTENTIONS OF THE QUEEN HERSELF.
AS HER FAVORITE "FOOL," OF COURSE. BUT WHO WAS THE REAL FOOL, TO FOOL?
A FEW KEY ASSISTS WITH THE RIGHT CROWD...

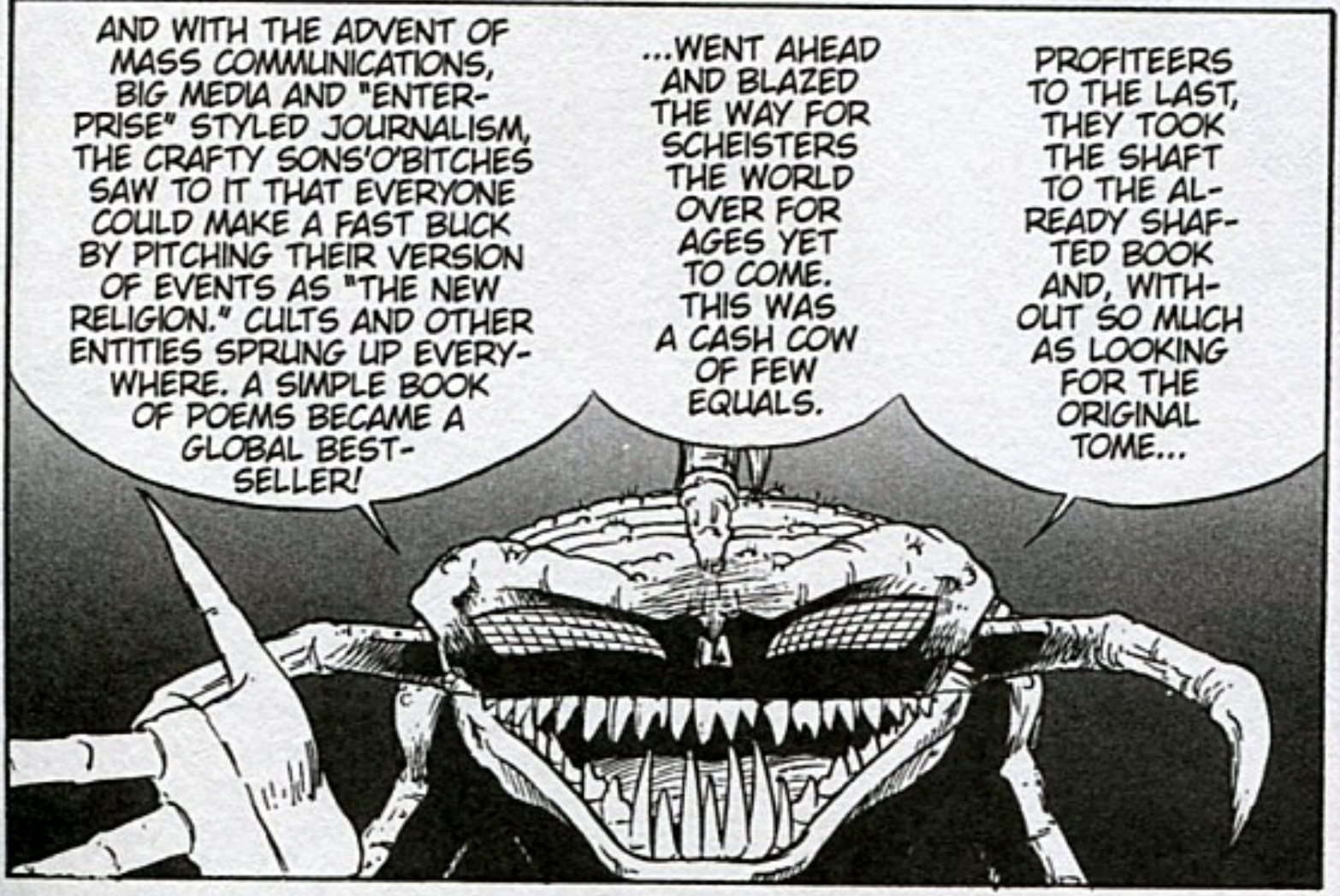

BUT HER HIGHNESS TOOK A SHINING TO HIM, AND INVITED HIM BACK OFTEN TO READ THE STARS AND FORETELL OF THINGS TO COME. A BIT OF A MYSTIC-FREAK, SHE WAS...
...IF SHE ONLY KNEW 'BOUT ME, HEH, HEH!
THEN ONE FINE DAY A YOUNG ASTROLOGER CAME TO COURT. EVEN BACK THEN, THE VAST MAJORITY OF THESE TURKS WERE FAKES, JUST LIKE TO-DAY.
HE TELLS ME TO HAVE THIS YOUNG BUCK WRITE A BOOK, OF ALL THINGS.
A BOOK CONSISTING OF 100 POEMS AND CURIOS GLEANED FROM THE STARS.
ANYWAY, OL' MALE-BOLGIA SENDS AN ODDBALL ORDER DOWN THE PIKE.
EVENTUALLY, THE YOUNG ASTROLOGER AGREED TO WRITING THIS TOME OF WHAT EVEN I CONSIDERED UTTER NONSENSE.
HELL. MY BRAIN COULDN'T FATHOM WHY THE BIG MAN WANTED THIS BOOK. I WAS WORKING TO GET IN ON HIS GOOD SIDE, SO I DID WHAT I WAS TOLD...AND SO DID MR. STAR READER.
SURE, IT TOOK SOME CONVIN-CING. BUT IF NOTHING ELSE, I'M CON-VINCING!

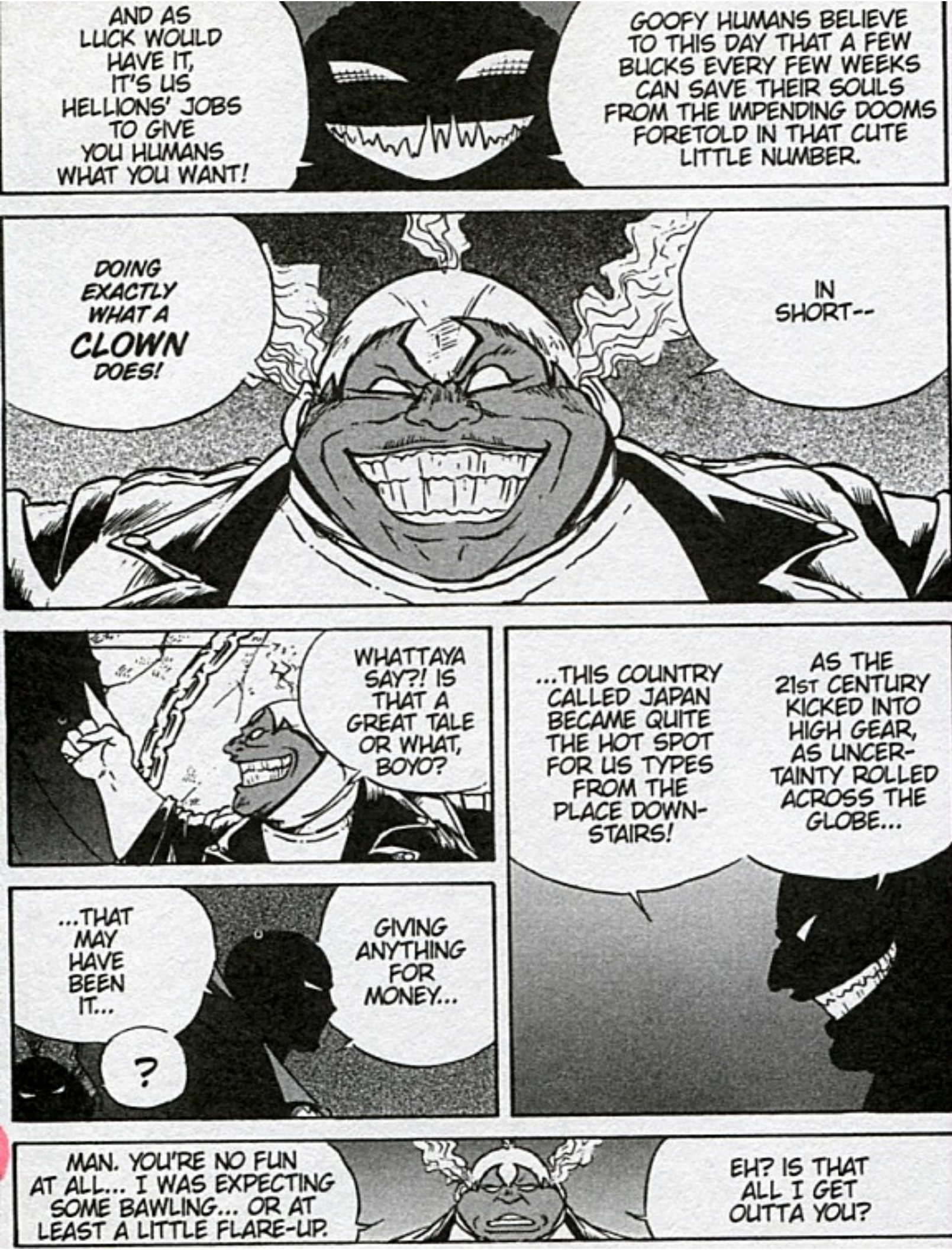

HE OF HELL WITH THE *GHETTO BOOTY* PLAYED THIS ONE SO WELL, I HAD NO IDEA WHAT HE WAS UP TO.
HYA-HA-HA...
THAT TRICKY LITTLE S.O.B.
DON'T YOU HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT? YOU WERE BORN IN JAPAN, RIGHT?
THE REST IS HISTORY?
?
450 YEARS LATER...
...THE REST IS HISTORY!
...*"YOUR PEOPLE"* TOTALLY DUG THIS GUY! HE WENT BY, *MICHEL NOSTRADAMUS!*
I SUPPOSE IT WAS ASKING TOO MUCH TO HAVE A KNOWLEDGE PUDGE LIKE YOU GET THIS ON THEIR OWN...
WHAT'S AN OLD TALE FROM EUROPE HAVE TO DO WITH MY BEING BORN IN JAPAN?


SOME DOOFBALL MIS-TRANSLATED THESE POEMS...
...COULDN'T READ "OLD" FRENCH, APPARENTLY.
AFTER SEVERAL BAD ERRORS IN THE MOVING OF THE TOME INTO OTHER LANGUAGES, 100 "STORIES" SOMEHOW BECAME "CENTURIES" WORTH OF PROPHECY!
OF COURSE, THE PROPER LATIN PRONOUNCIATION WOULD PUT IT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF...
...MIKHAEL NOSTRADAMUS!
ARE YOU REALLY EVEN JAPANESE?
YOU TEST ME, BOY.
EVEN IF WE LEFT WHEN I TURNED FIVE.
YEP.
NOSTRIL WHO--?
THE "GROUPIE EFFECT" THIS STORYWRITER HAD ON YOU HUMANS THROUGHOUT HISTORY HAS CAUSED WORRY AND STRIFE OF UNTOLD PROPORTIONS!

OF ALL THE DUMB-DUMB NATIONS, JAPAN TOOK THE PRIZE AS THE DUMBEST.
DON'T MAKE ME WASTE THIS PERFECTLY GOOD STORY, BOY. KEEP-UP.


...THEY SAW THE MONEY POTENTIAL IN THESE WRITINGS AND DELIBERATELY STARTED TO NOT ONLY MISLEAD WITH LOUSY TRANSLATIONS. OH, NO. THEY OUTRIGHT STARTED TO ADD LINES, STORIES AND PASSAGES OF THEIR OWN!
YOU SEE... "OLD" FRENCH TRANSLATION FLUBS WERE INNOCENT MISTAKES. THOSE WHO CLAIMED TO BE EXPERT ANTHROPOLOGISTS AND LINGUISTS...


AND WITH THE ADVENT OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS, BIG MEDIA AND "ENTERPRISE" STYLED JOURNALISM, THE CRAFTY SONS'O'BITCHES SAW TO IT THAT EVERYONE COULD MAKE A FAST BUCK BY PITCHING THEIR VERSION OF EVENTS AS "THE NEW RELIGION." CULTS AND OTHER ENTITIES SPRUNG UP EVERYWHERE. A SIMPLE BOOK OF POEMS BECAME A GLOBAL BESTSELLER!
...WENT AHEAD AND BLAZED THE WAY FOR SCHEISTERS THE WORLD OVER FOR AGES YET TO COME. THIS WAS A CASH COW OF FEW EQUALS.
PROFITEERS TO THE LAST, THEY TOOK THE SHAFT TO THE ALREADY SHAFTED BOOK AND, WITHOUT SO MUCH AS LOOKING FOR THE ORIGINAL TOME...

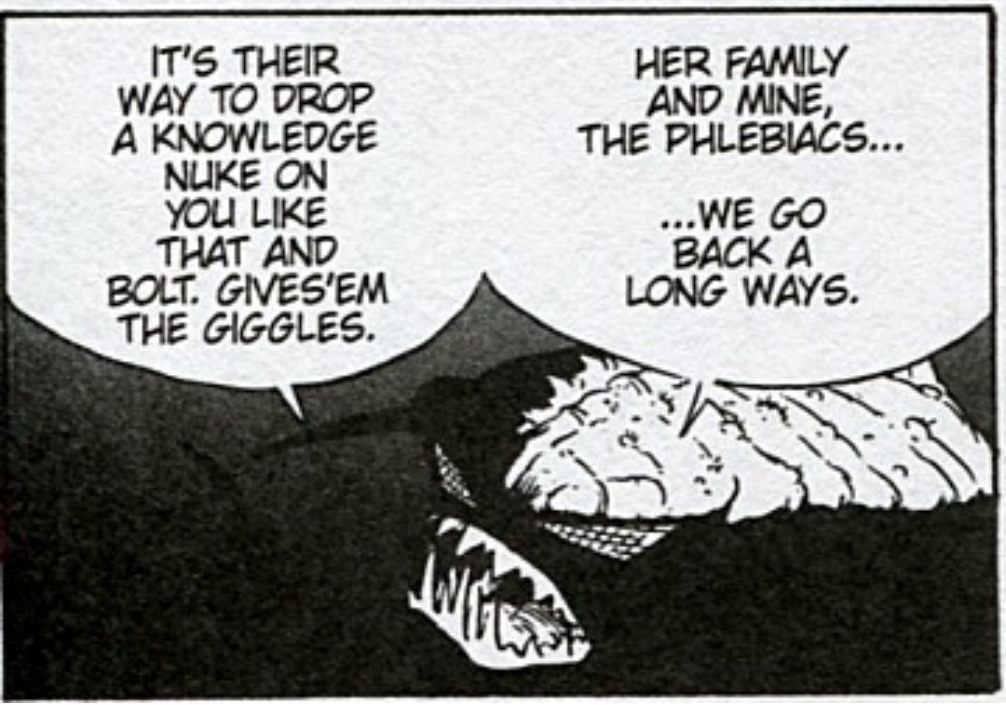

AND AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, IT'S US HELLIONS' JOBS TO GIVE YOU HUMANS WHAT YOU WANT!
GOOFY HUMANS BELIEVE TO THIS DAY THAT A FEW BUCKS EVERY FEW WEEKS CAN SAVE THEIR SOULS FROM THE IMPENDING DOOMS FORETOLD IN THAT CUTE LITTLE NUMBER.
DOING EXACTLY WHAT A CLOWN DOES!
IN SHORT--
WHATTAYA SAY?! IS THAT A GREAT TALE OR WHAT, BOYO?
...THIS COUNTRY CALLED JAPAN BECAME QUITE THE HOT SPOT FOR US TYPES FROM THE PLACE DOWN-STAIRS!
AS THE 21ST CENTURY KICKED INTO HIGH GEAR, AS UNCER-TAINTY ROLLED ACROSS THE GLOBE...
...THAT MAY HAVE BEEN IT...
?
GIVING ANYTHING FOR MONEY...
MAN. YOU'RE NO FUN AT ALL... I WAS EXPECTING SOME BAWLING... OR AT LEAST A LITTLE FLARE-UP.
EH? IS THAT ALL I GET OUTTA YOU?

IT'S INDEFENSIBLE TO GIVE AWAY ONE'S *PRIDE* FOR A FEW *COINS* OF SILVER.
MY PARENTS WOULD NOT HAVE STOOD FOR A SELL-AT-WILL CULTURE. THAT MUST'VE BEEN THEIR REASON FOR LEAVING.
CAN'T DENY IT.
THAT ZOMBIE MUST REALLY BE MAKING AN IMPRESSION ON YOU.
PRIDE?
WHAT'S *THAT* MEAN?
THEN YOU'D BEST GET BACK TO STUDYING.
IS THAT SO?
CHEVEYO'S GIVEN ME MUCH, BUT I'VE SO MUCH MORE TO LEARN FROM HIM.

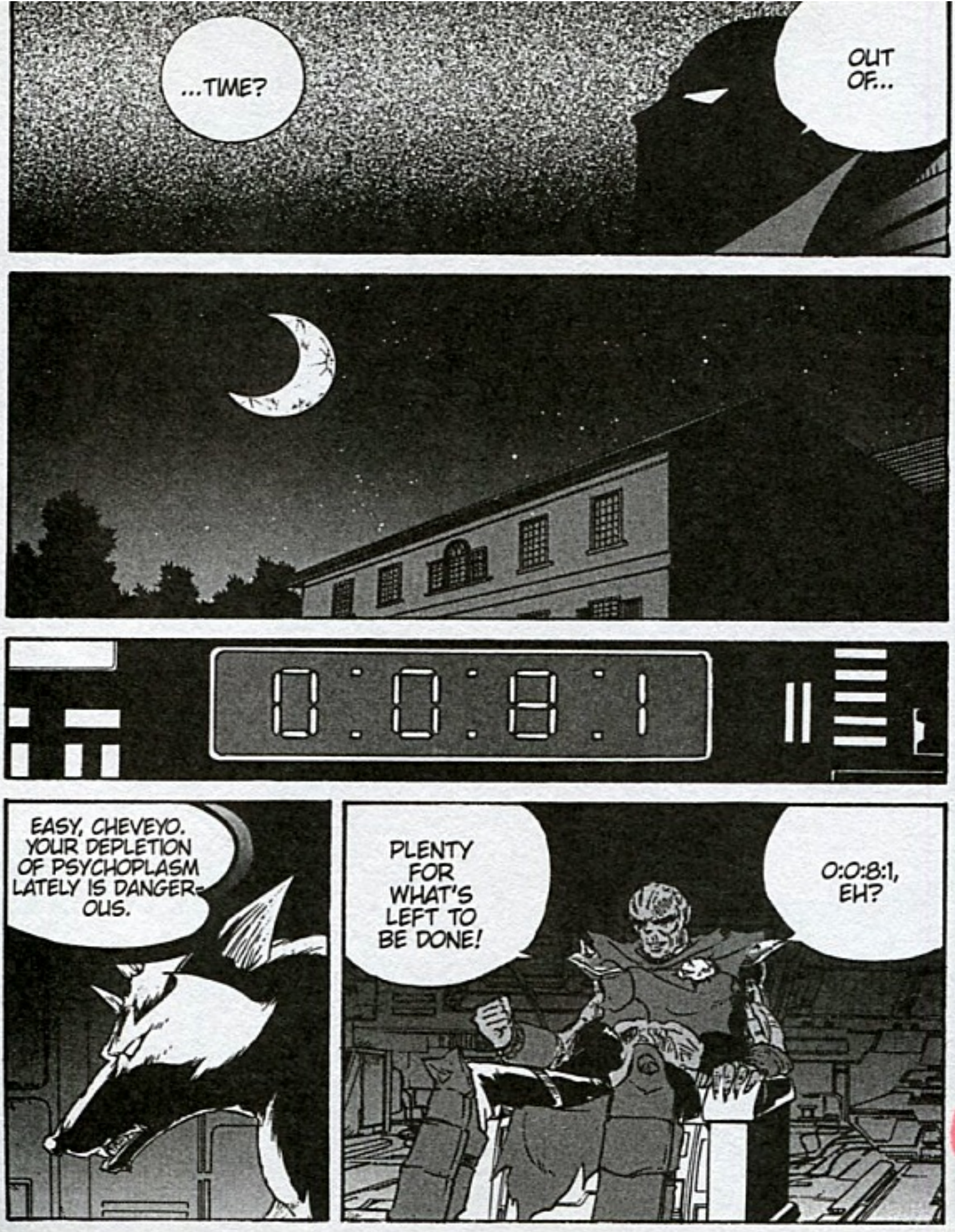
...IS THAT HE'S ALMOST OUT OF TIME.
WHAT THAT MEANS...

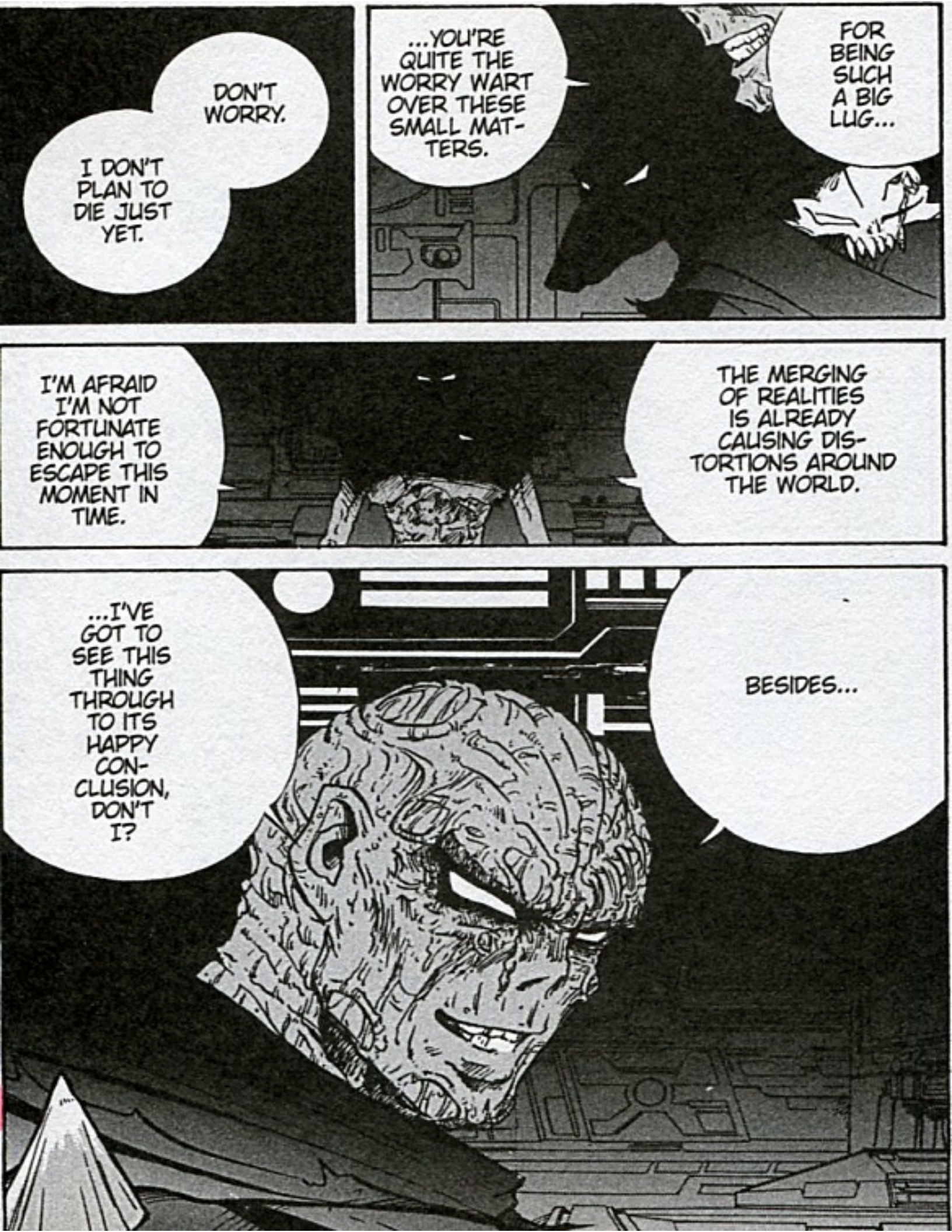
WAIT- UP, BEE!

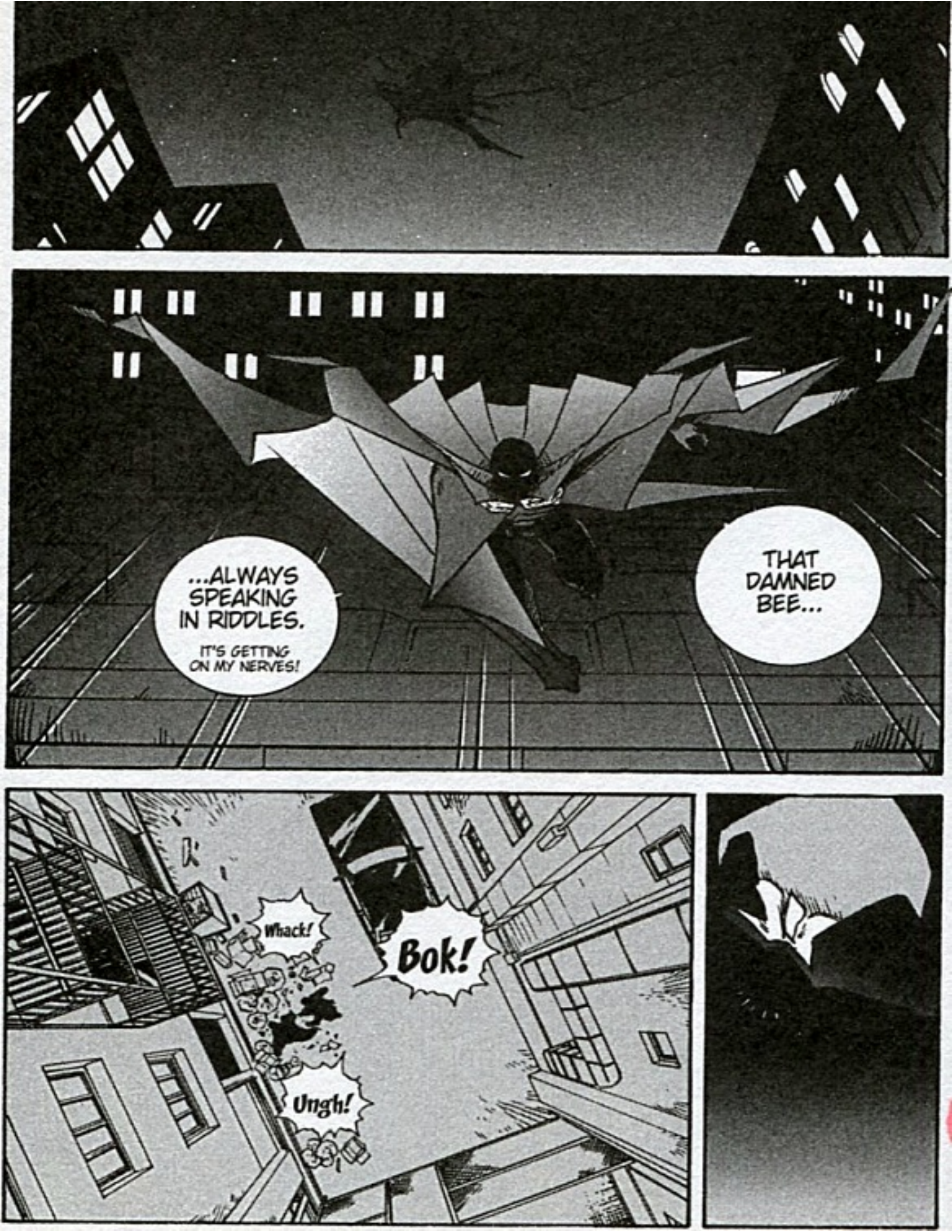
?!


IT'S THEIR WAY TO DROP A KNOWLEDGE NUKE ON YOU LIKE THAT AND BOLT. GIVES'EM THE GIGGLES.
HER FAMILY AND MINE, THE PHLEBIACS...
...WE GO BACK A LONG WAYS.

WHAT'D SHE MEAN, "OUT OF TIME?"
HOW SHOULD I KNOW?


...TIME?
OUT OF...
0:0:8:1
EASY, CHEVEYO. YOUR DEPLETION OF PSYCHOPLASM LATELY IS DANGER-OUS.
PLENTY FOR WHAT'S LEFT TO BE DONE!
0:0:8:1, EH?


DON'T WORRY.
I DON'T PLAN TO DIE JUST YET.
...YOU'RE QUITE THE WORRY WART OVER THESE SMALL MATTERS.
FOR BEING SUCH A BIG LUG...
I'M AFRAID I'M NOT FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO ESCAPE THIS MOMENT IN TIME.
THE MERGING OF REALITIES IS ALREADY CAUSING DISTORTIONS AROUND THE WORLD.
...I'VE GOT TO SEE THIS THING THROUGH TO ITS HAPPY CONCLUSION, DON'T I?
BESIDES...


...ALWAYS SPEAKING IN RIDDLES.
IT'S GETTING ON MY NERVES!
THAT DAMNED BEE...
Whack!
Bok!
Ungh!

BIG AS YOU ARE! OLD AS YOU ARE! YOU STILL TALKING JACK-ASININE--
AAGH!
WHAT THE HELL IS THE MATTER WITH YOU?

GET IT TOGETHER, MAN!

U.F.O.s... ...CREATURES OF THE NIGHT... ...IDIOTIC PROPHECIES!
BUT I'M TELLING YOU... I SAW THEM.
EVER SINCE OUR YOUTH...

A LITTLE CHUBSTER WITH AN OVER-ACTIVE IMAGIN-ATION.
SEVEN YEARS AGO, I REMEMBER SOMEONE WHO SPOKE OF THESE THINGS.

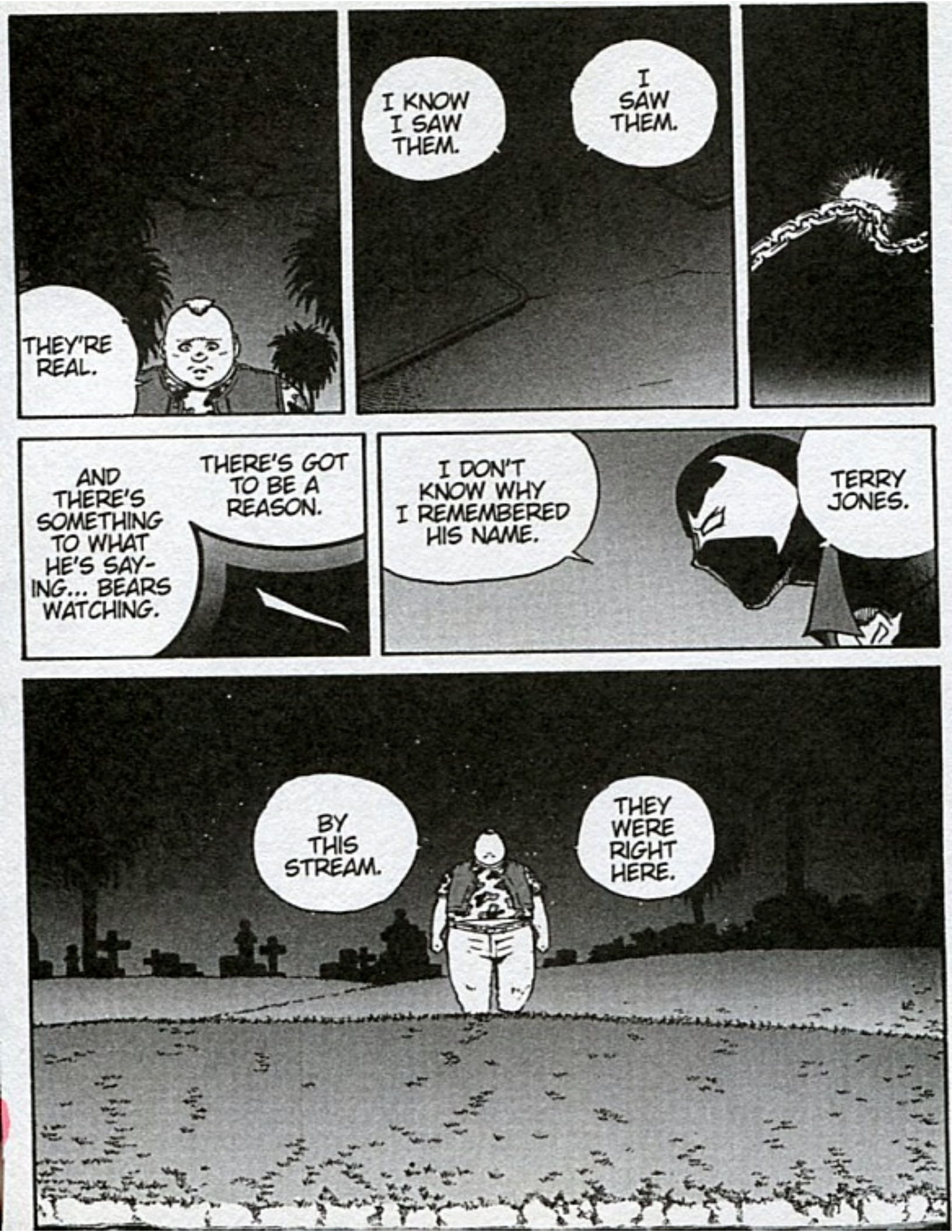
LIKE THE VIOLATOR WAS SAY-ING... ...SEEMS EVEN STREET GANGS AREN'T IMMUNE TO THIS MERGING.
U.F.O.s AND MONSTERS RUNNING AMOK. SOUNDS FAMILIAR.

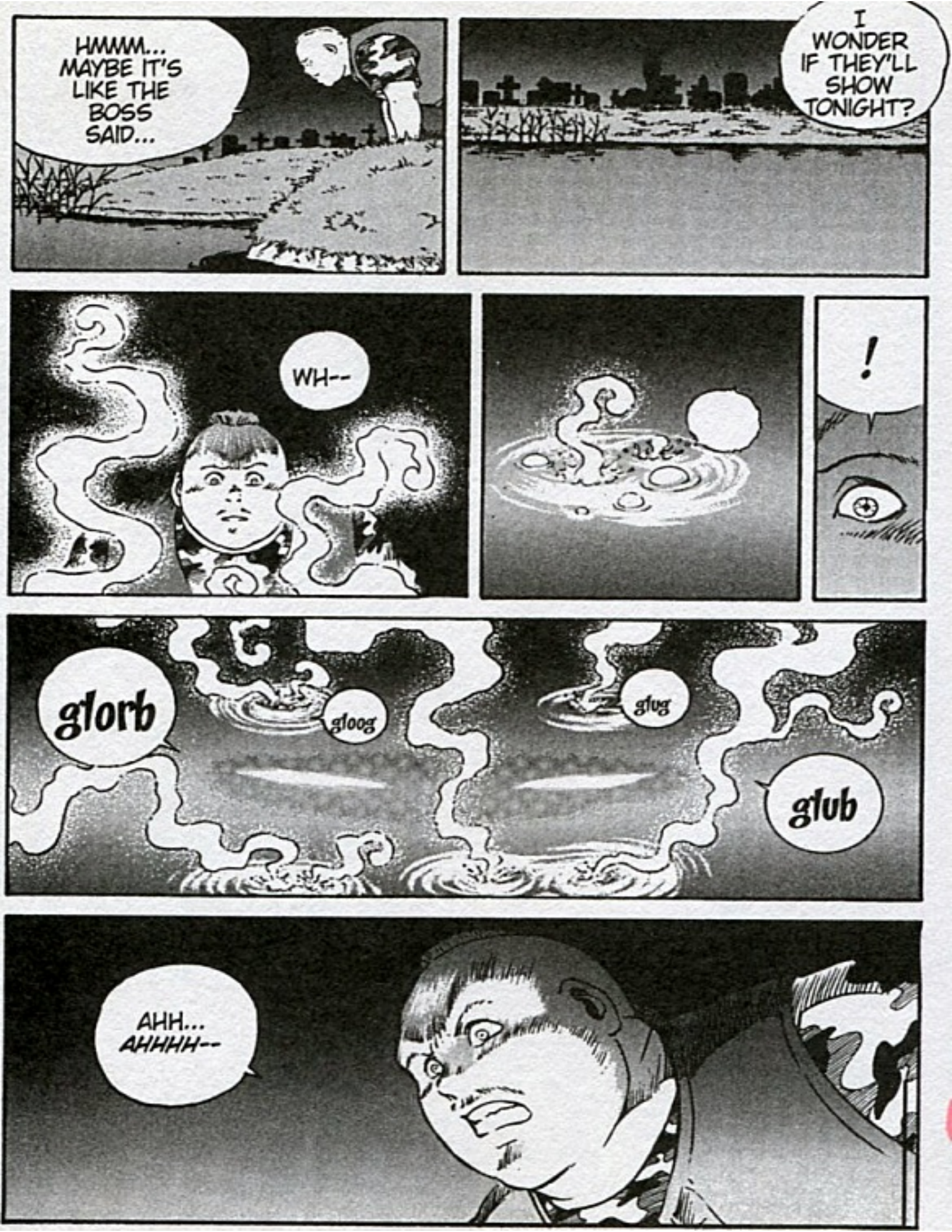
EVEN IF THAT TEAM WAS A STREET GANG. BUT HE WASN'T CUT FROM THE RIGHT CLOTH FOR THAT.

ALL HE EVER WANTED TO DO WAS TO FIT IN ON A TEAM... ANY TEAM.

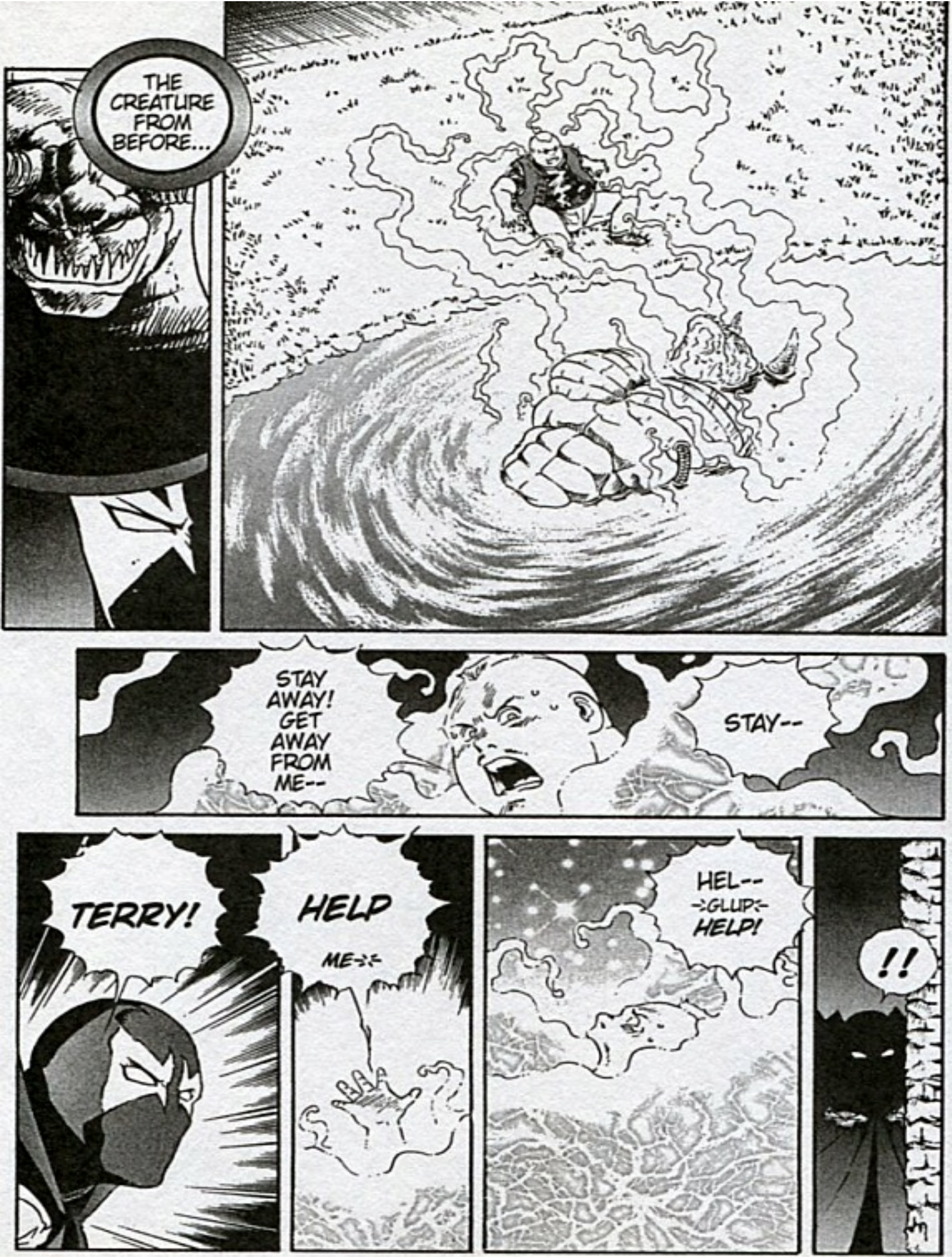
チームに入りたいって付きまとってたわりにゃ

口を開けば超能力だの妖精だのってとてもストリートギャングってタイプじゃなかった……


THEY'RE REAL.
I KNOW I SAW THEM.
I SAW THEM.
AND THERE'S SOMETHING TO WHAT HE'S SAY-ING... BEARS WATCHING.
THERE'S GOT TO BE A REASON.
I DON'T KNOW WHY I REMEMBERED HIS NAME.
TERRY JONES.
BY THIS STREAM.
THEY WERE RIGHT HERE.


HMMM... MAYBE IT'S LIKE THE BOSS SAID...
I WONDER IF THEY'LL SHOW TONIGHT?
WH--
!
glorb
gloog
glug
glub
AHH... AHHHH--

THAT'S--
?!
EEeeK!


THE CREATURE FROM BEFORE...
STAY AWAY! GET AWAY FROM ME--
STAY--
TERRY!
HELP
ME-->:<
HEL--
-:GLUP:-
HELP!
!!

RRRAA!

GROAR!
TERRY!
T--

EPISODE.14 PROMISE ―約束―

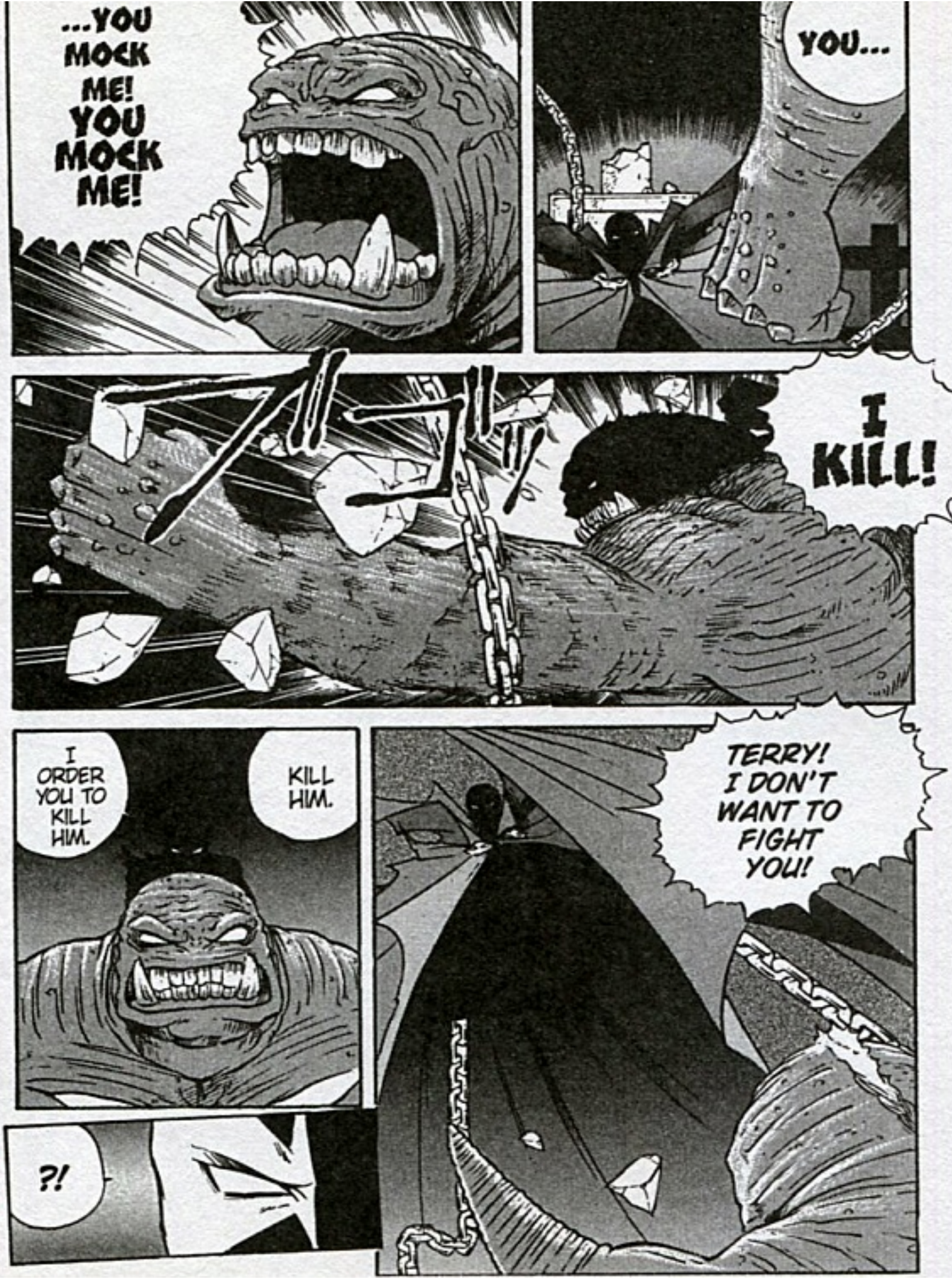
TERRY!
RRRR?
GRRRR
RAH!

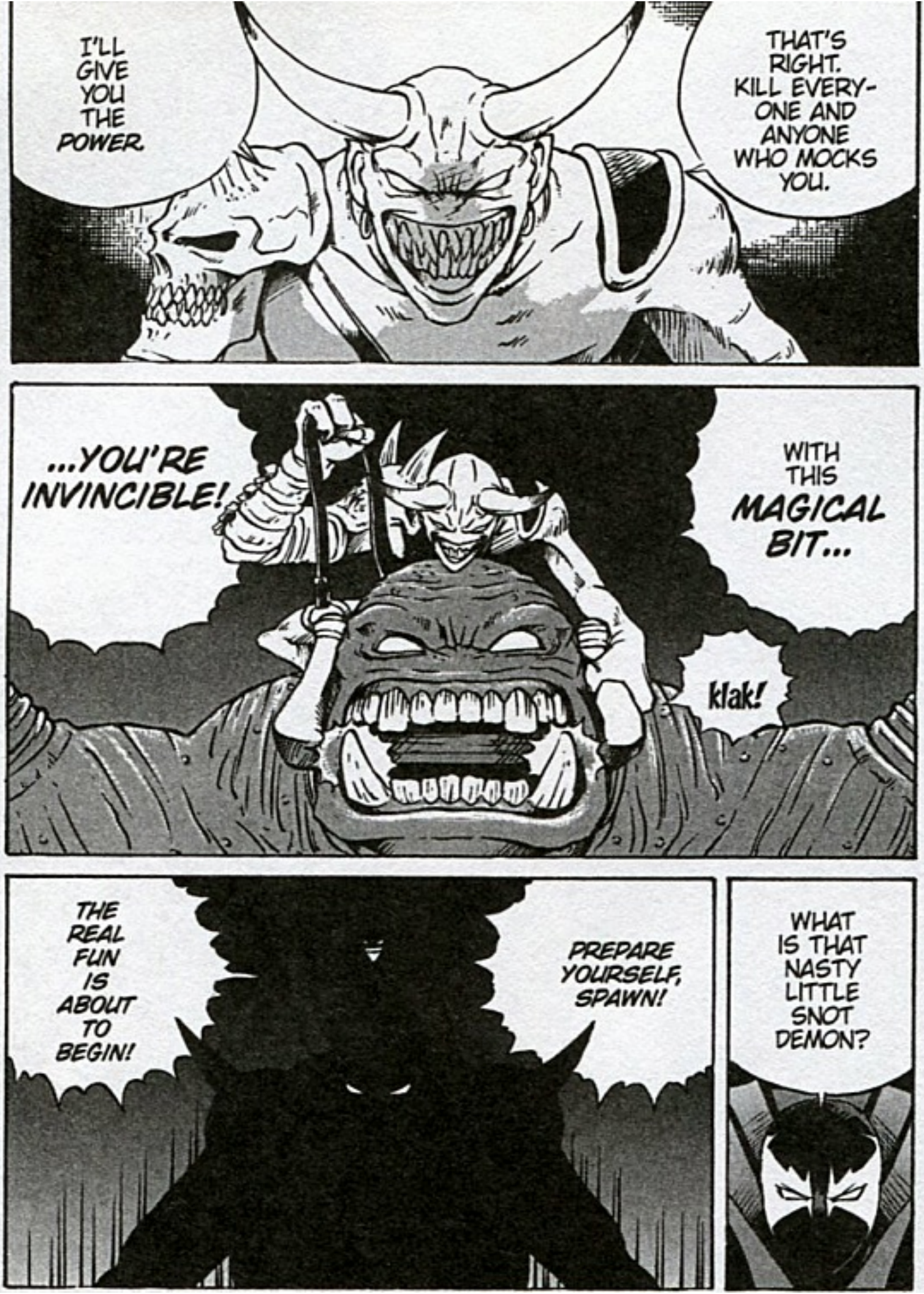
HNGH!
GAWRAA!
TERRY--
WAIT!
STOP!
TERRY! I'M A FRIEND!
CH--
DON'T RE-MEMBER, HUH?
GRR
KEN KUROSAWA! FROM THE C-BLOCK DAYS SEVEN YEARS AGO!
IT'S ME! DOUBLE K!

KEN... KURO-SAWA?
G-- K---
K...
YOU REMEM-BER!
SO YOU DID HEAR ME!
!!
KEN LEAVE TERRY ALL ALONE!
...KEN DEAD!

WHOK!

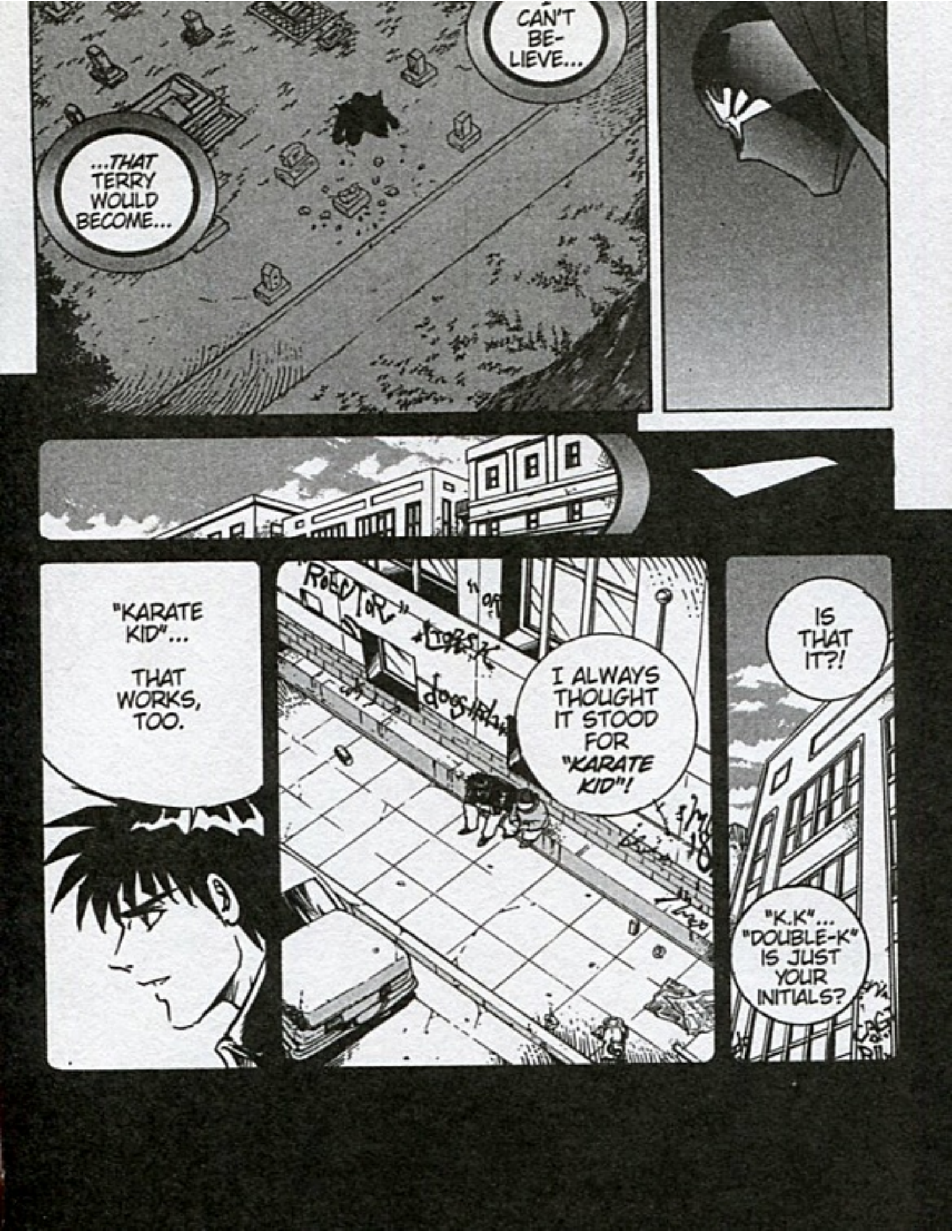
TERRY--
GNRF...

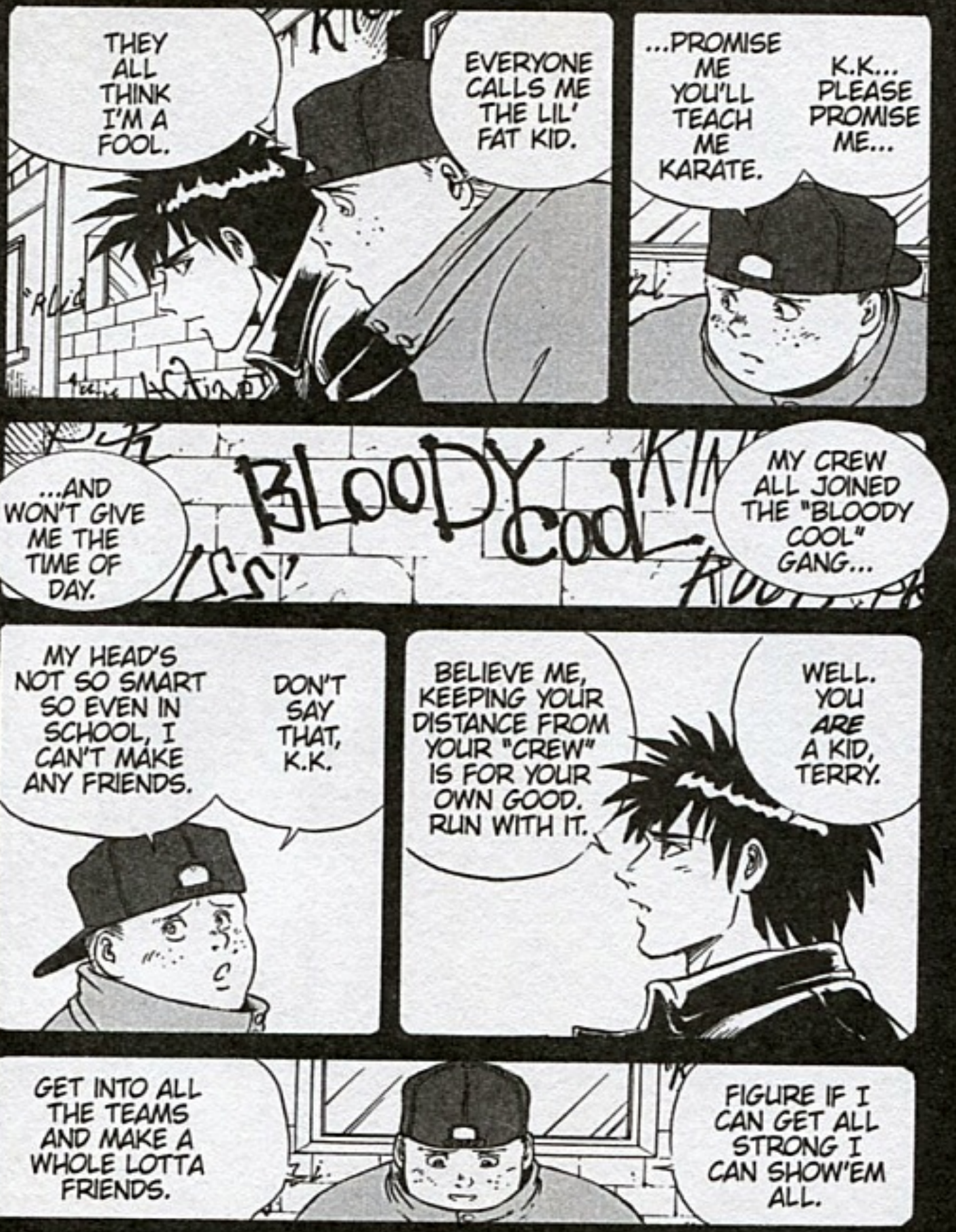

...YOU MOCK ME! YOU MOCK ME!
YOU...
I KILL!
I ORDER YOU TO KILL HIM.
KILL HIM.
?!
TERRY! I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT YOU!

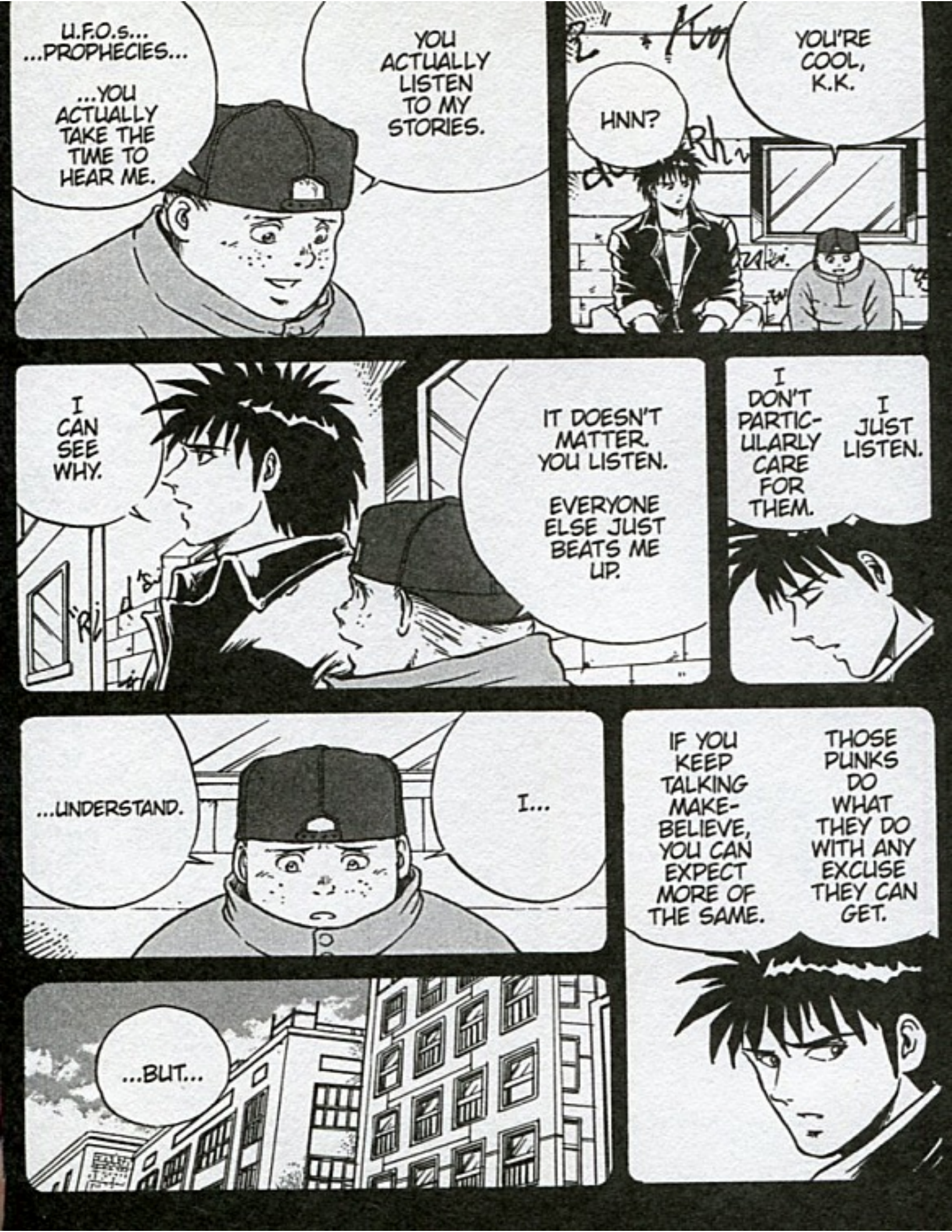

I'LL GIVE YOU THE POWER.
THAT'S RIGHT. KILL EVERY-ONE AND ANYONE WHO MOCKS YOU.
...YOU'RE INVINCIBLE!
WITH THIS MAGICAL BIT...
klak!
THE REAL FUN IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!
PREPARE YOURSELF, SPAWN!
WHAT IS THAT NASTY LITTLE SNOT DEMON?

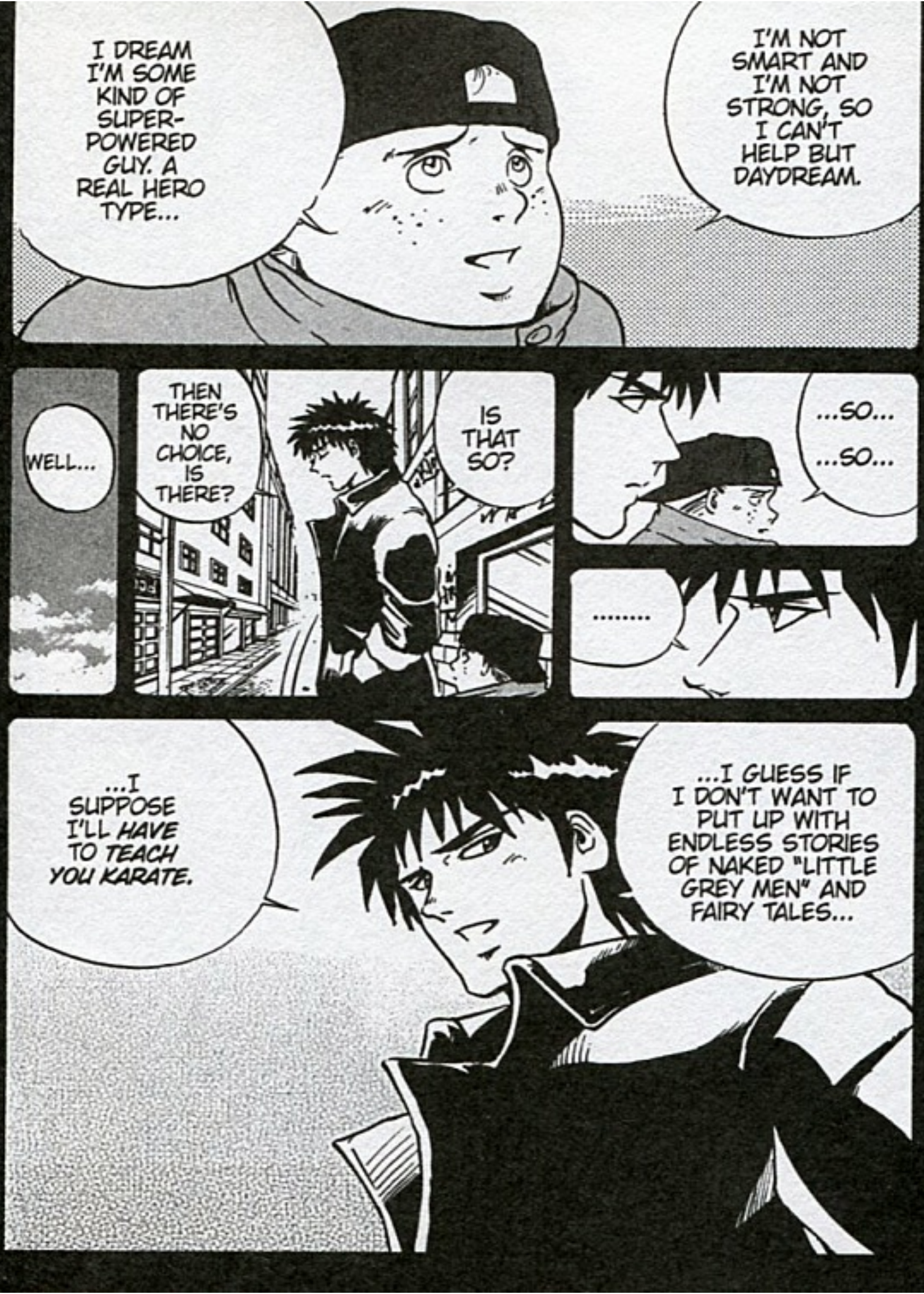
LET NO ONE CALL YOU A FOOL ANY LONGER!
FOOL-- NO MORE!
F--
WH--
THAAAT'S RIGHT! SHOW HIM YOUR POWER!
I DON'T WANT TO HARM YOU!
DON'T DO THIS, TERRY!

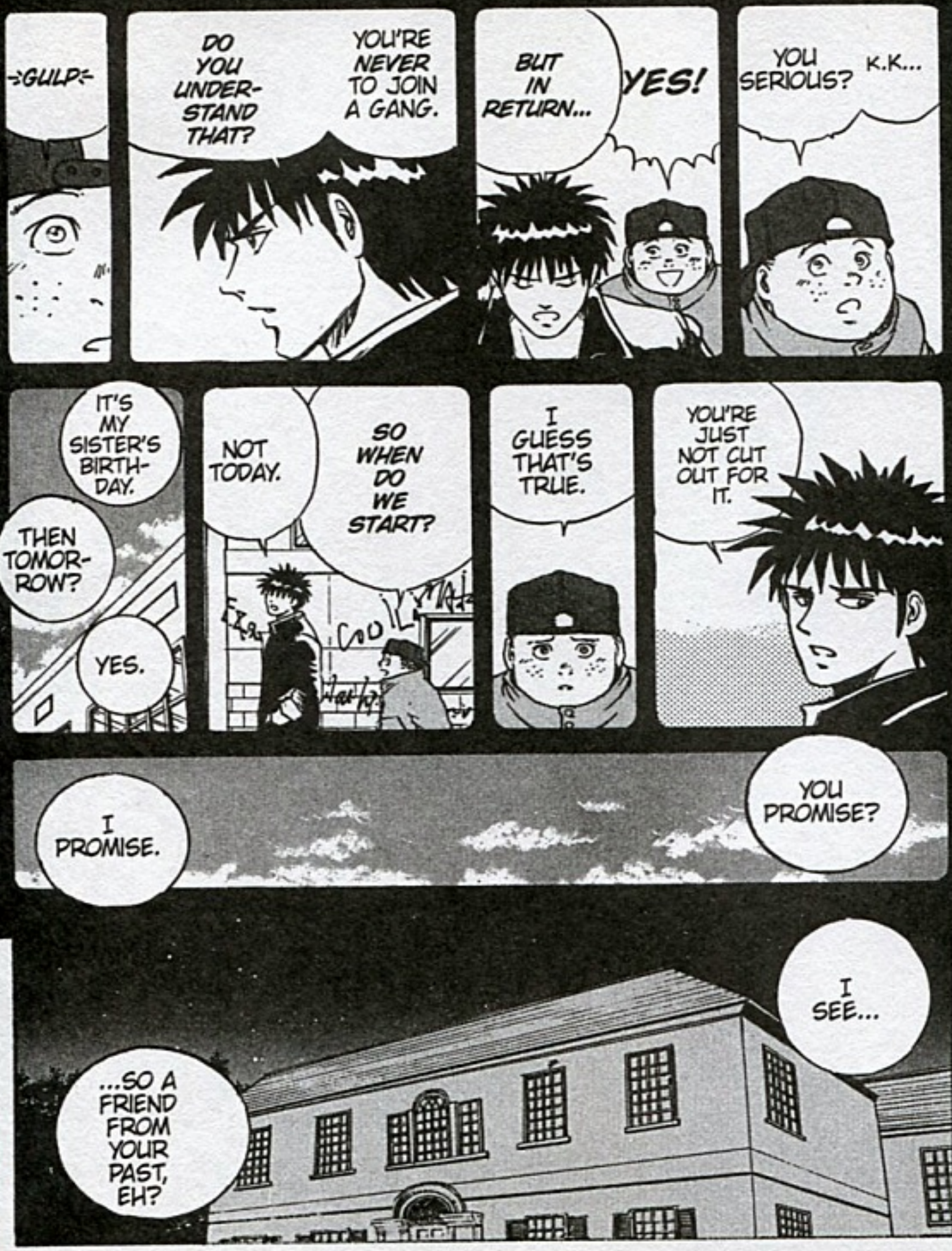
TERRY...
THIS IS YOUR FATE.
INES-CAPABLE DESTINY.
YOU CAN'T RUN...
...LITTLE CHICKIE CHICK.


...THAT TERRY WOULD BECOME...
CAN'T BE-LIEVE...
"KARATE KID"...
THAT WORKS, TOO.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT IT STOOD FOR "KARATE KID"!
IS THAT IT?!
"K.K"... "DOUBLE-K" IS JUST YOUR INITIALS?


THEY ALL THINK I'M A FOOL.
EVERYONE CALLS ME THE LIL' FAT KID.
...PROMISE ME YOU'LL TEACH ME KARATE.
K.K... PLEASE PROMISE ME...
BLOODY COOL
...AND WON'T GIVE ME THE TIME OF DAY.
MY CREW ALL JOINED THE "BLOODY COOL" GANG...
MY HEAD'S NOT SO SMART SO EVEN IN SCHOOL, I CAN'T MAKE ANY FRIENDS.
DON'T SAY THAT, K.K.
BELIEVE ME, KEEPING YOUR DISTANCE FROM YOUR "CREW" IS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD. RUN WITH IT.
WELL. YOU ARE A KID, TERRY.
GET INTO ALL THE TEAMS AND MAKE A WHOLE LOTTA FRIENDS.
FIGURE IF I CAN GET ALL STRONG I CAN SHOW'EM ALL.


U.F.O.s...
...PROPHECIES...
...YOU ACTUALLY TAKE THE TIME TO HEAR ME.
YOU ACTUALLY LISTEN TO MY STORIES.
HNN?
YOU'RE COOL, K.K.
I CAN SEE WHY.
IT DOESN'T MATTER. YOU LISTEN.
EVERYONE ELSE JUST BEATS ME UP.
I DON'T PARTIC-ULARLY CARE FOR THEM.
I JUST LISTEN.
...UNDERSTAND.
I...
IF YOU KEEP TALKING MAKE-BELIEVE, YOU CAN EXPECT MORE OF THE SAME.
THOSE PUNKS DO WHAT THEY DO WITH ANY EXCUSE THEY CAN GET.
...BUT...


I DREAM I'M SOME KIND OF SUPER-POWERED GUY. A REAL HERO TYPE...
I'M NOT SMART AND I'M NOT STRONG, SO I CAN'T HELP BUT DAYDREAM.
WELL...
THEN THERE'S NO CHOICE, IS THERE?
IS THAT SO?
...SO...
...SO...
.....
...I SUPPOSE I'LL *HAVE* TO *TEACH* YOU KARATE.
...I GUESS IF I DON'T WANT TO PUT UP WITH ENDLESS STORIES OF NAKED "LITTLE GREY MEN" AND FAIRY TALES...

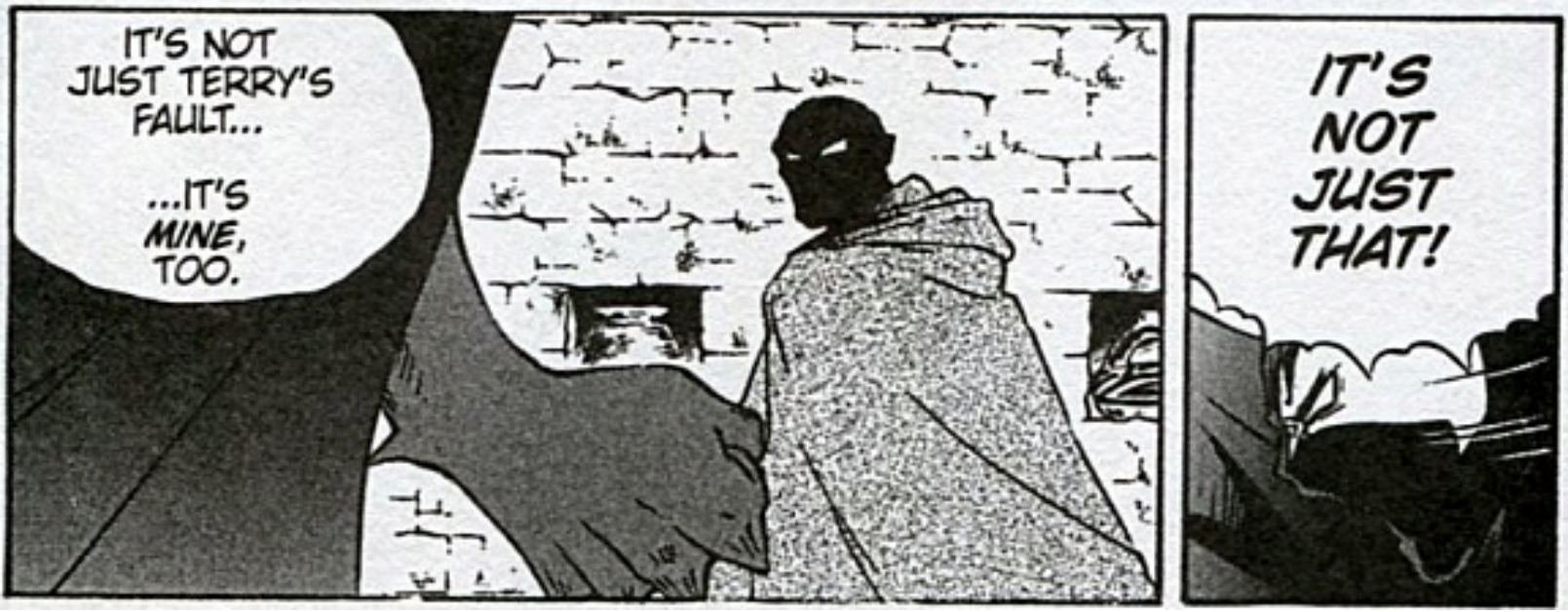

=GULP=
DO YOU UNDER-STAND THAT?
YOU'RE NEVER TO JOIN A GANG.
BUT IN RETURN...
YES!
YOU SERIOUS?
K.K...
IT'S MY SISTER'S BIRTH-DAY.
THEN TOMOR-ROW?
YES.
NOT TODAY.
SO WHEN DO WE START?
I GUESS THAT'S TRUE.
YOU'RE JUST NOT CUT OUT FOR IT.
I PROMISE.
YOU PROMISE?
...SO A FRIEND FROM YOUR PAST, EH?
I SEE...

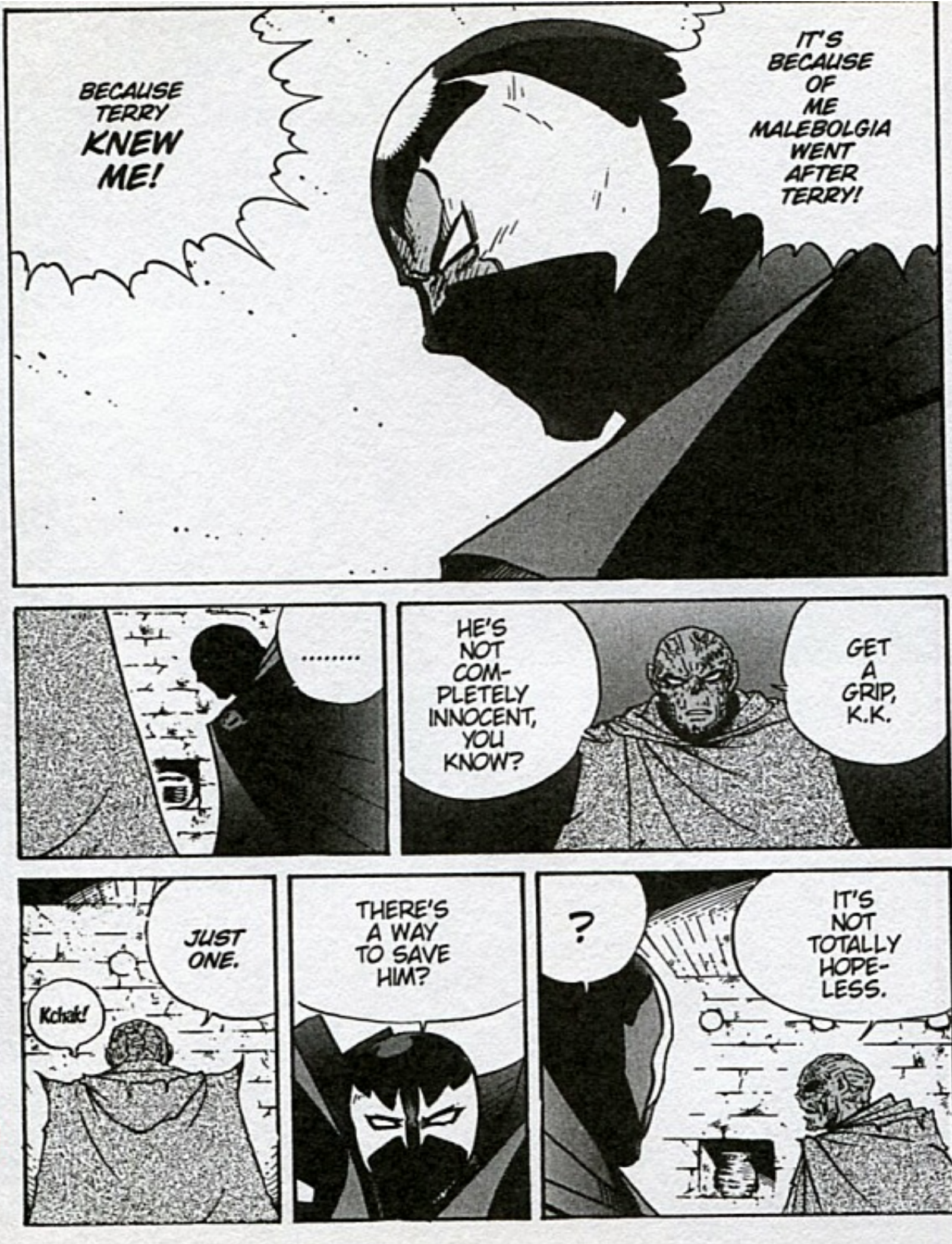
TERRY'S NOT THE KIND TO BECOME A MONSTER LIKE THAT!
CAN'T YOU DO SOME-THING?!

PUPPETEER?!

...THEN IT MEANS THERE'S A PUPPETEER AT WORK. A MALICIOUS LITTLE BUGGER THAT GUIDES THE PSYCHOPLASM'S "READ" OF THE MAN.
IF THE PSYCHOPLASM DIDN'T CREATE THAT WHICH HE BECAME...

THE PSYCHOPLASM COULD HAVE BEEN MANIPULATED BY THE PUPPETEER TO BE WRONGLY REFLECTED IN THE FINAL TRANS-FORMATION.
FROM WHAT YOU JUST TOLD ME, HAVING "POWER" HAS BEEN THE INNERMOST WISH OF YOUR FRIEND.

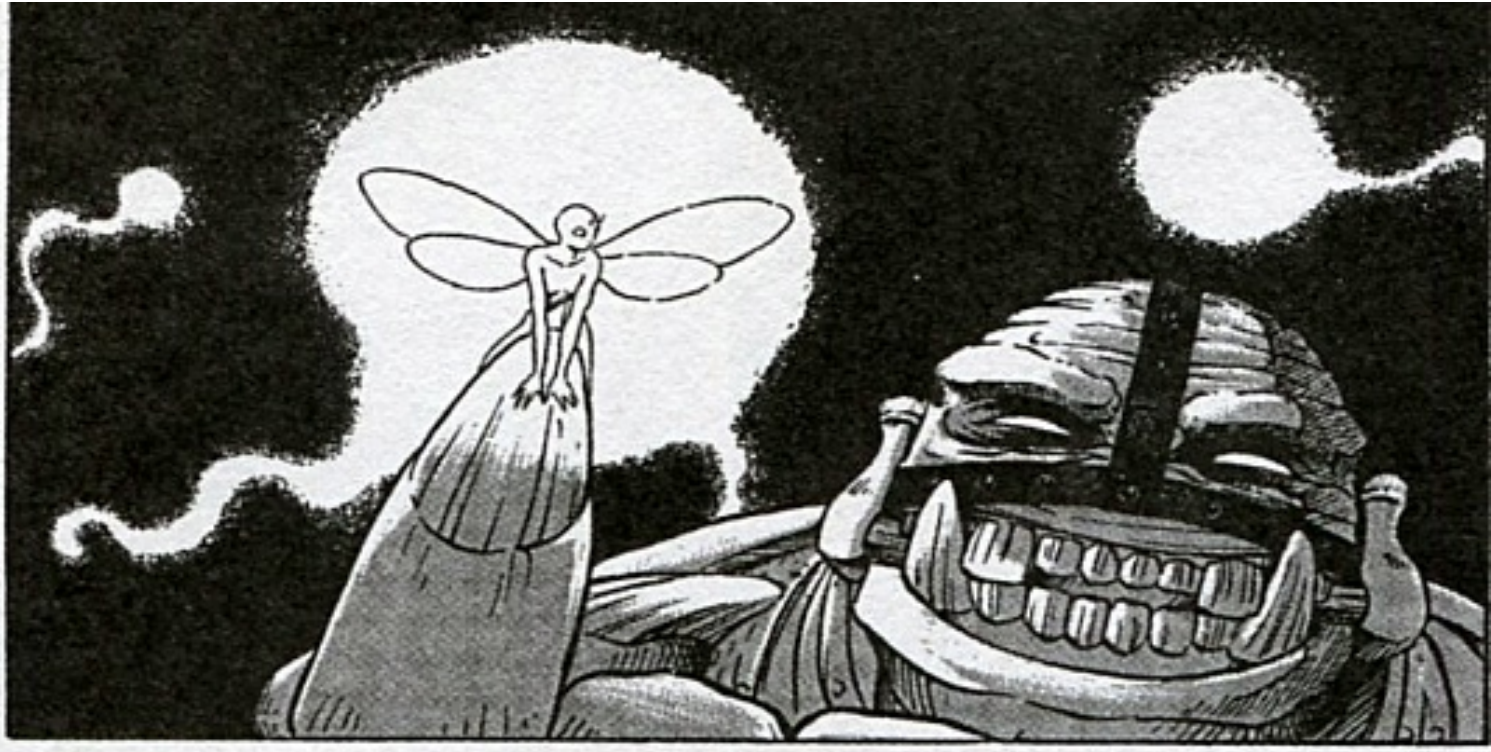

IT'S NOT JUST TERRY'S FAULT...
...IT'S MINE, TOO.
IT'S NOT JUST THAT!


BECAUSE TERRY KNEW ME!
IT'S BECAUSE OF ME MALEBOLGIA WENT AFTER TERRY!
.....
HE'S NOT COM-PLETELY INNOCENT, YOU KNOW?
GET A GRIP, K.K.
JUST ONE.
Kchak!
THERE'S A WAY TO SAVE HIM?
?
IT'S NOT TOTALLY HOPE-LESS.

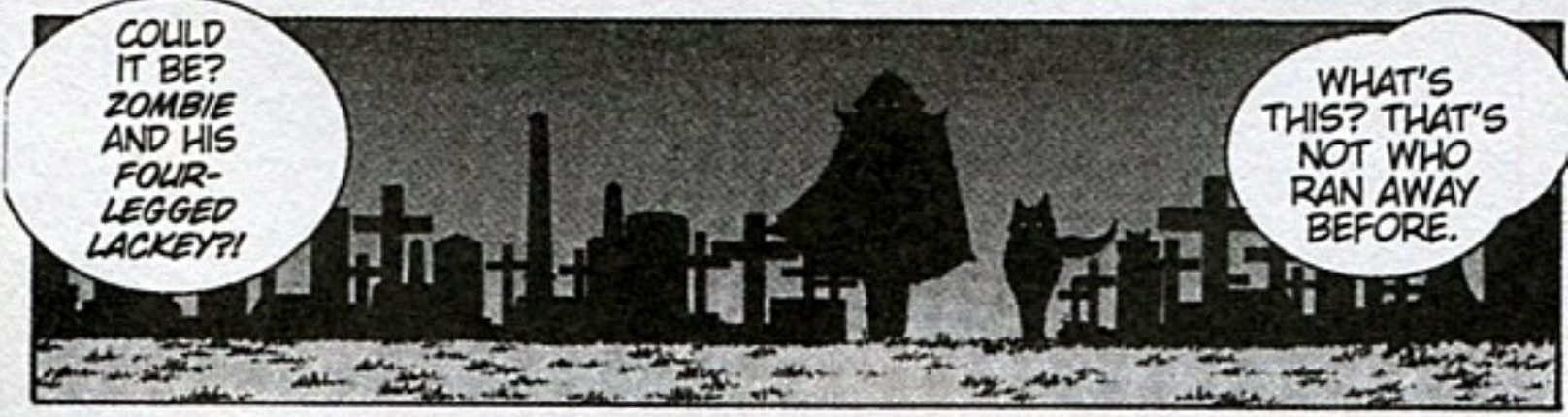
BASICALLY...
...WE SHOOT HIM.
THAT'S YOUR PLAN?!
What?!
IF YOU CAN'T DO IT, I WILL.
BUT...
...THIS IS THE ONLY WAY.
WE HAVE TO BLEED OFF THE PSYCHO-PLASM HE'S A PRISONER TO...

...TO KEEP FROM SACRI-FICING ANOTHER INNOCENT LIFE.
IT'S THE ONLY WAY...

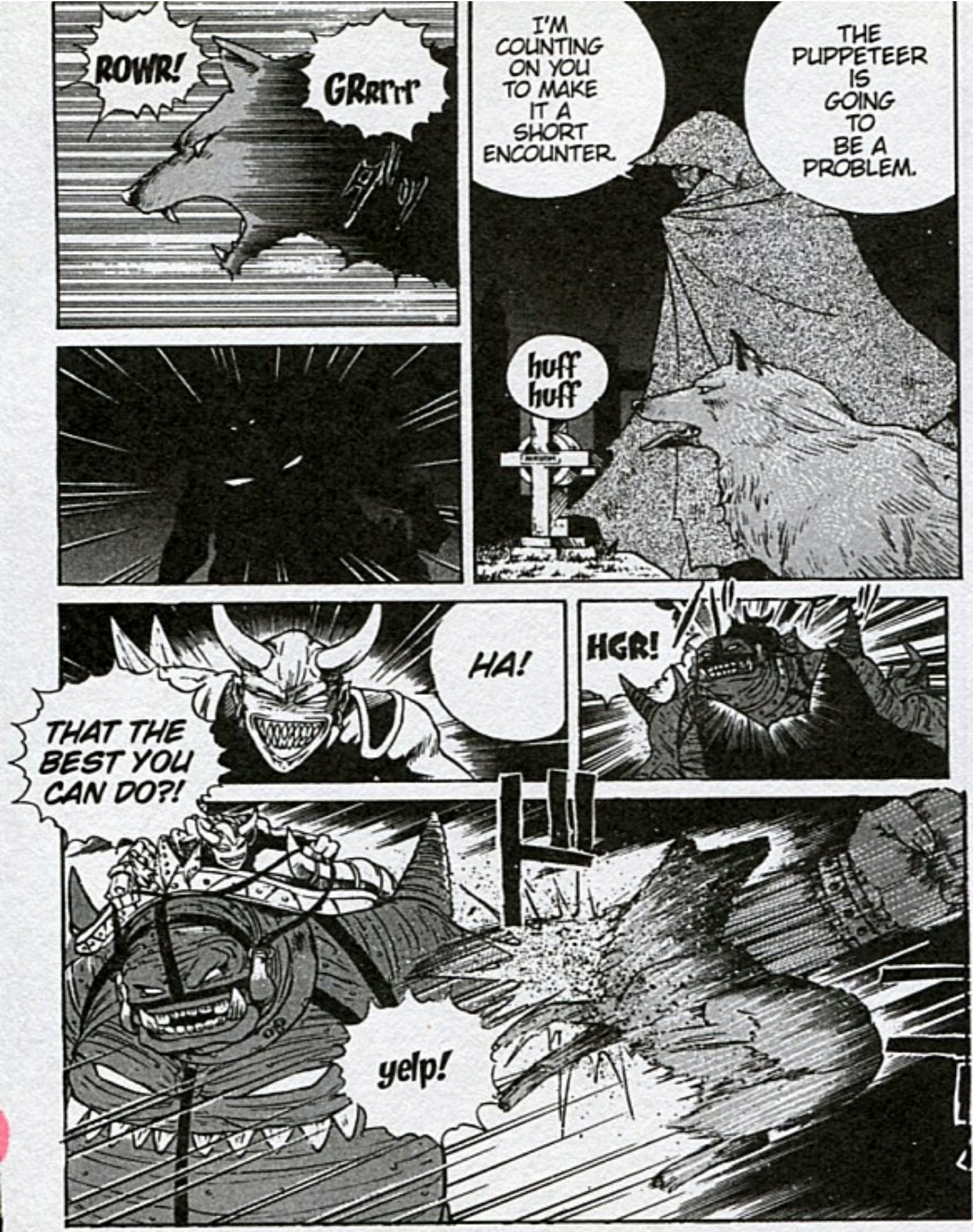
COLUMNS
TARISA
ROBERTO

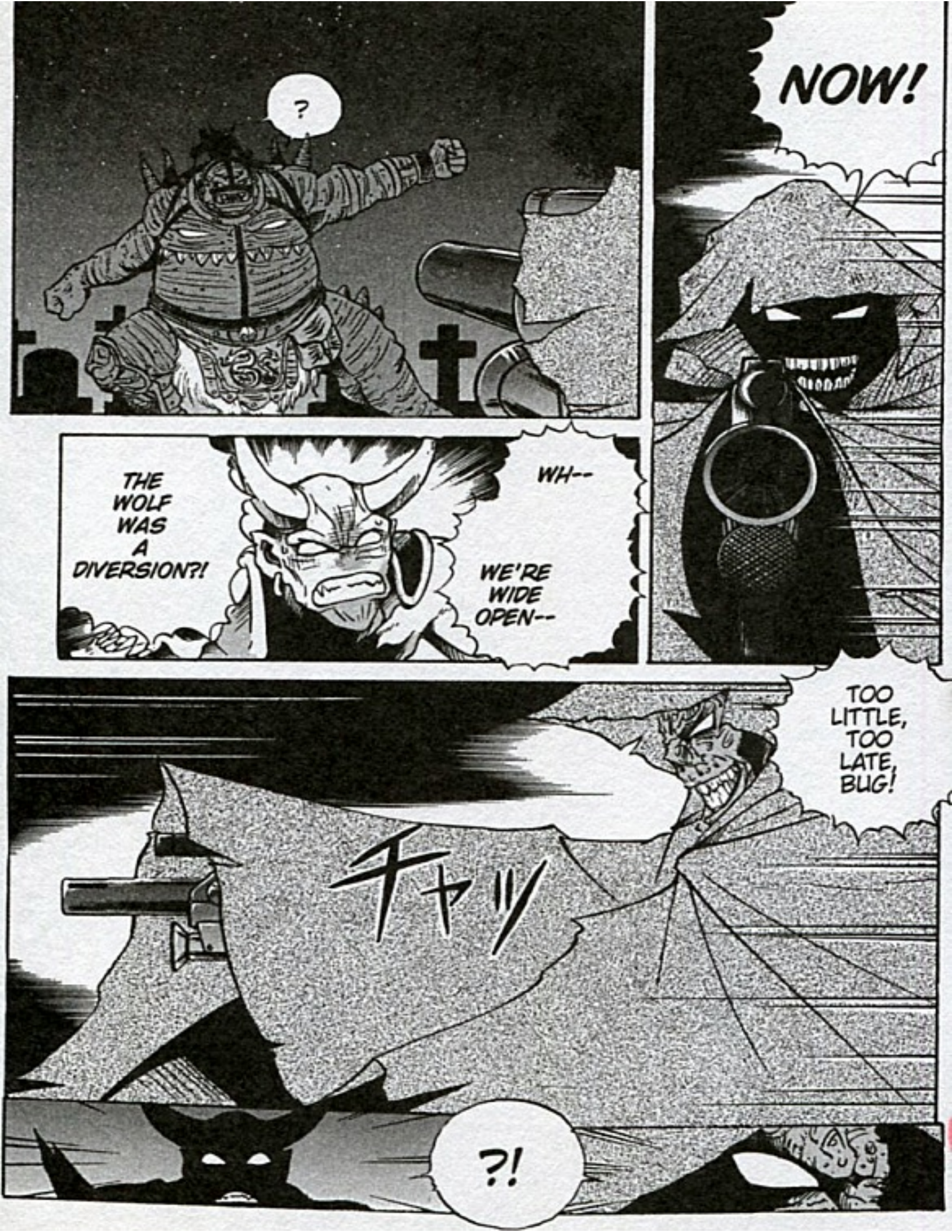


?!?
TIME FOR ROUND TWO!
HEY, HEY, HEY! NO TIME TO PLAY!
zushya!
HMN?

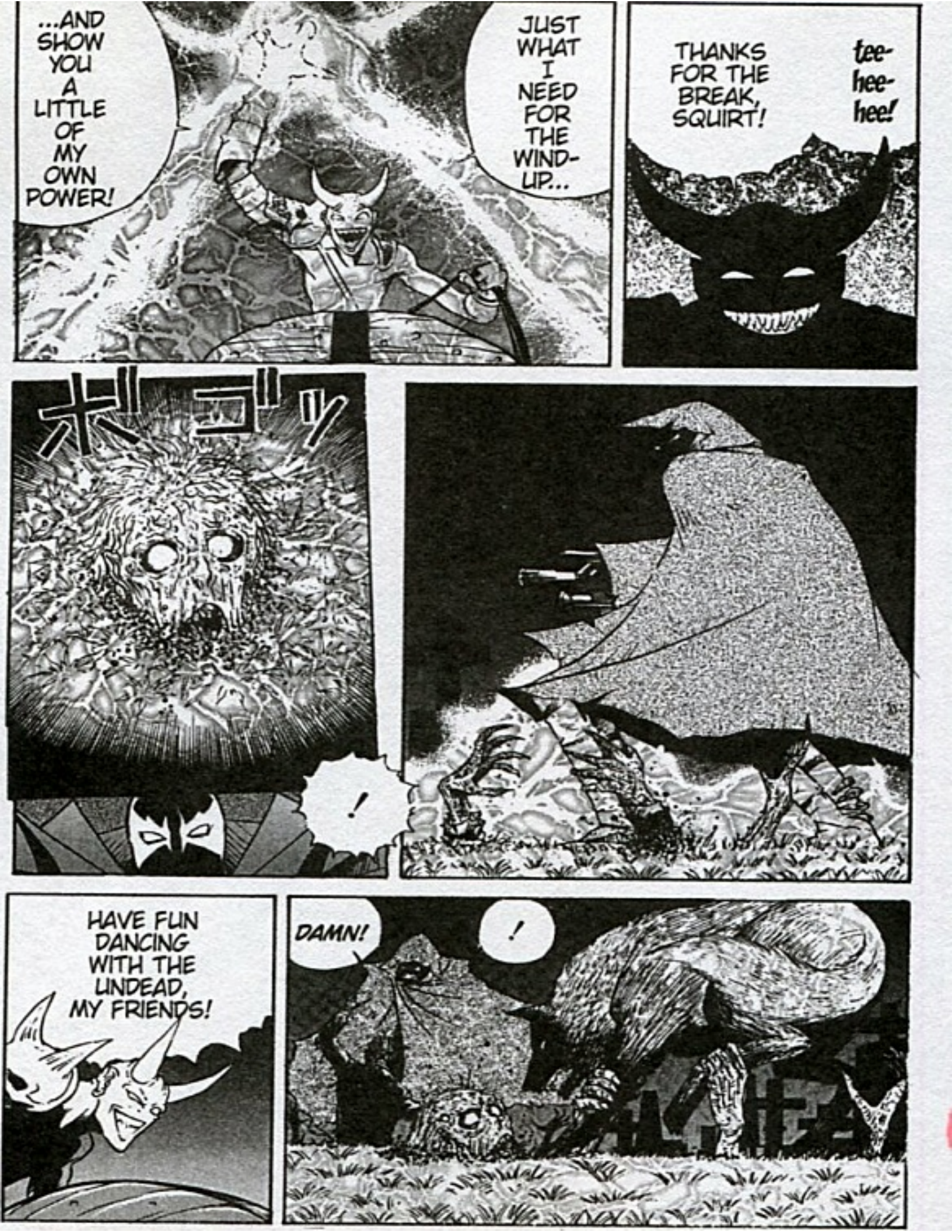

COULD IT BE? ZOMBIE AND HIS FOUR-LEGGED LACKEY?!
WHAT'S THIS? THAT'S NOT WHO RAN AWAY BEFORE.

I COULDN'T HAVE PLANNED THIS ANY BETTER!
THIS IS JUST PERFECT!

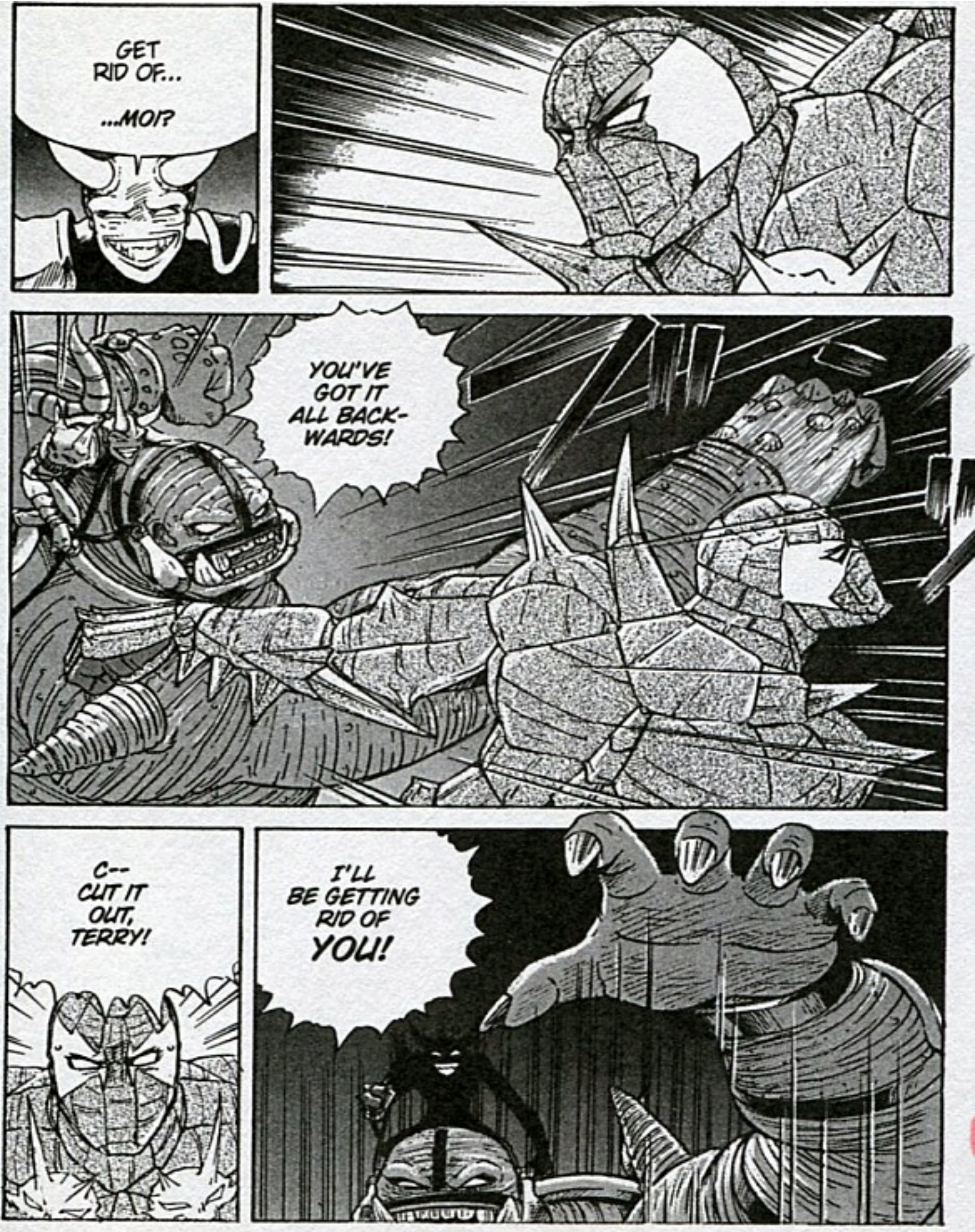

ROWR!
GRrrrr
I'M COUNTING ON YOU TO MAKE IT A SHORT ENCOUNTER.
THE PUPPETEER IS GOING TO BE A PROBLEM.
huff huff
HA!
THAT THE BEST YOU CAN DO?!
HGR!
yelp!

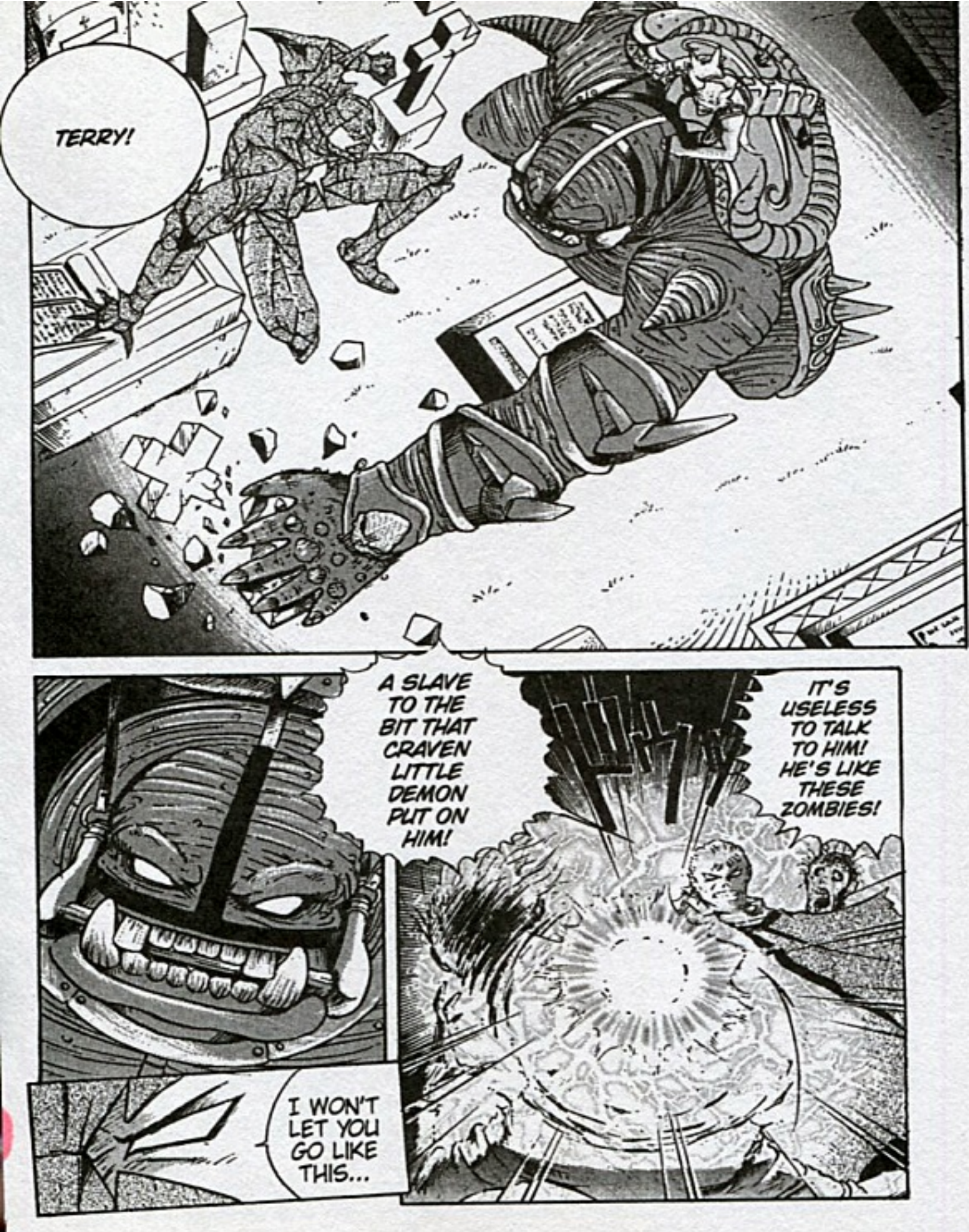

?
NOW!
THE WOLF WAS A DIVERSION?!
WH--
WE'RE WIDE OPEN--
TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE, BUG!
チャッ
?!

WAIT, CHEVEYO!
DON'T!
PLEASE!
CHEVEYO!
KID!
K--
GA--
BUT--
THAT'S NOT THE TERRY YOU RE-MEMBER!
MOVE IT!

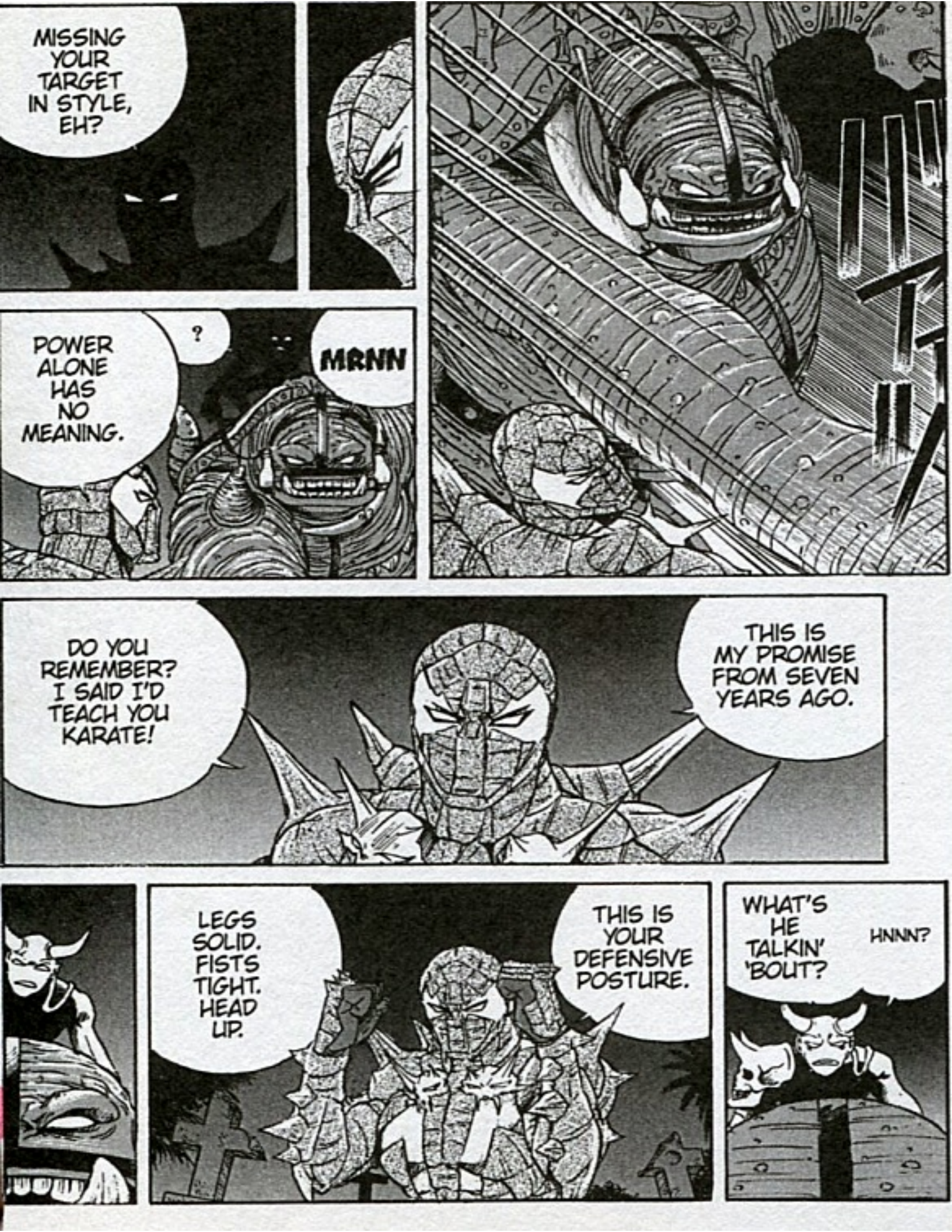

...AND SHOW YOU A LITTLE OF MY OWN POWER!
JUST WHAT I NEED FOR THE WIND-UP...
THANKS FOR THE BREAK, SQUIRT!
tee-hee-hee!
ボゴッ
!
HAVE FUN DANCING WITH THE UNDEAD, MY FRIENDS!
DAMN!
!

CHEVEYO!
MANGEE!
IF I GET RID OF YOU--
HEH, HEH, HEH. HAVE FUN, BOYS!
YOU!


GET RID OF...
...MOI?
YOU'VE GOT IT ALL BACK-WARDS!
C-- CUT IT OUT, TERRY!
I'LL BE GETTING RID OF YOU!

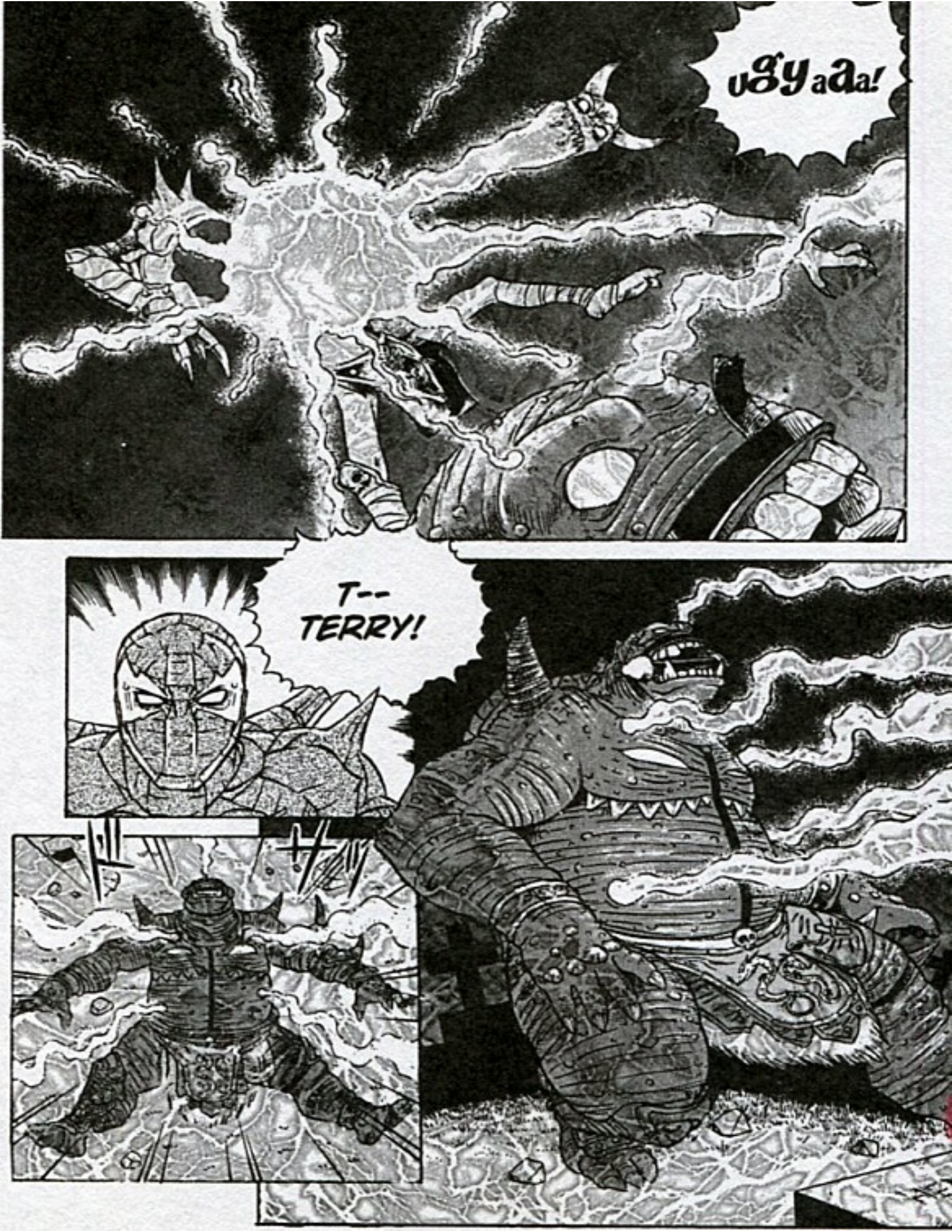

TERRY!
A SLAVE TO THE BIT THAT CRAVEN LITTLE DEMON PUT ON HIM!
IT'S USELESS TO TALK TO HIM! HE'S LIKE THESE ZOMBIES!
I WON'T LET YOU GO LIKE THIS...

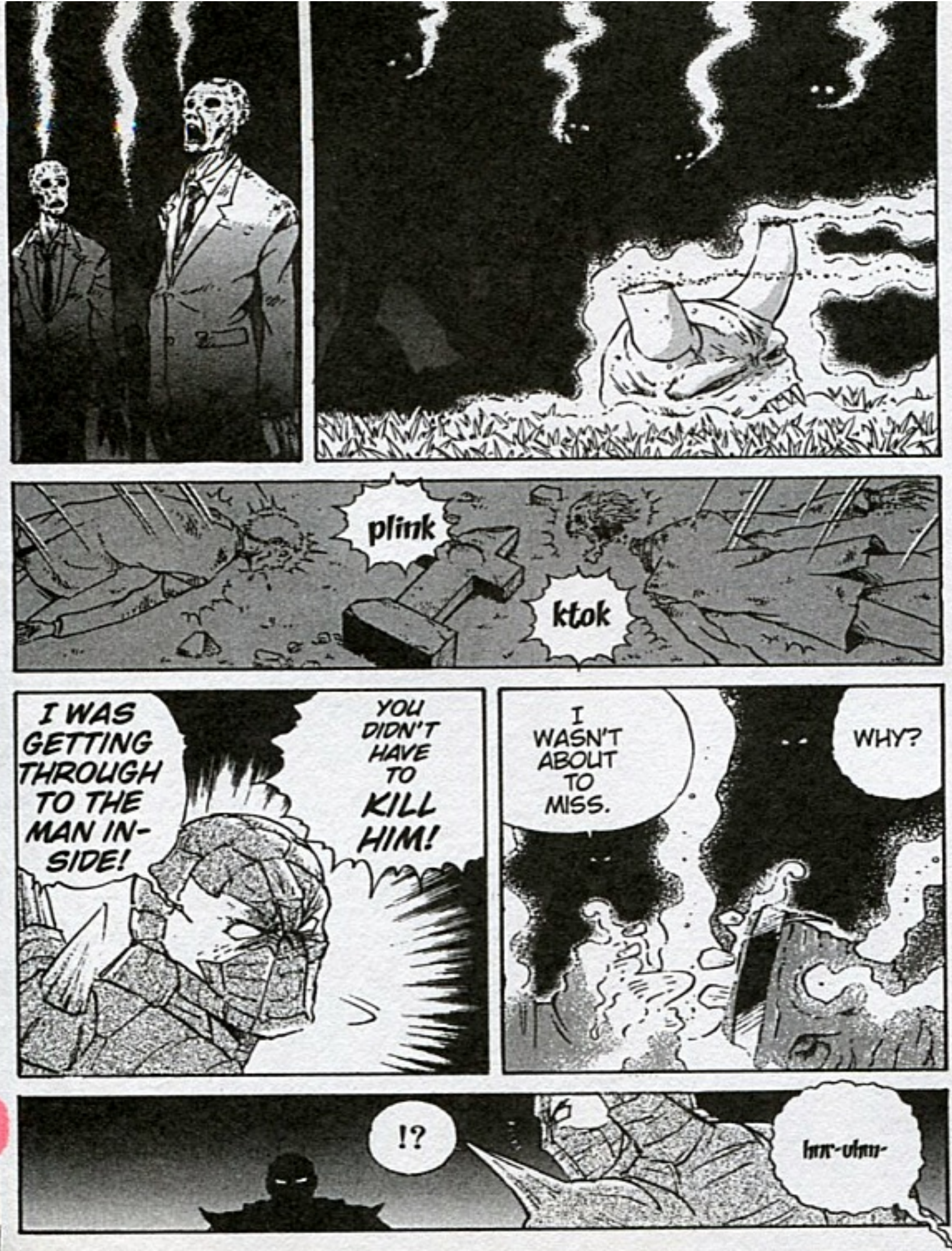
THESE THINGS ARE ENDLESS!
GRR?
TERRY. YOU RE-MEMBERED ME ONCE.
AND I'M WASTING BULLETS!
ドッ
ドッ
ドッ
LISTEN TO ME!
!


MISSING YOUR TARGET IN STYLE, EH?
?
MRNN
POWER ALONE HAS NO MEANING.
DO YOU REMEMBER? I SAID I'D TEACH YOU KARATE!
THIS IS MY PROMISE FROM SEVEN YEARS AGO.
LEGS SOLID. FISTS TIGHT. HEAD UP.
THIS IS YOUR DEFENSIVE POSTURE.
WHAT'S HE TALKIN' 'BOUT?
HNNN?

YOU MADE ME PROMISE THIS TO YOU SEVEN YEARS AGO! NOW GET WITH THE PROGRAM!
WHAT'RE YOU GAWKING AT? ARE YOU GOING TO FOLLOW, OR NOT?!
PROMISE... P--
HEENH?!
THIS LUG CAN'T RECALL HIS HUMAN MEM--
SEVUHN--
HA! HA! HA! YOU'RE KIDDING YOURSELF!
FAST, LATERAL PUNCH. STRIKE THROUGH YOUR TARGET. CONCENTRATE!
PRO-MISE--
ATTACK POSTURE. LIKE THIS!
!!
IF YOU DON'T, SO HELP ME, I'LL SHOOT THROUGH YOU!
OUT OF THE WAY, K.K.! THIS IS MY LAST BULLET!

WH--?!
!
LOOK OUT, K.K.!
BOOOM
ドドド
ドドド
ドウ
ボ
!?

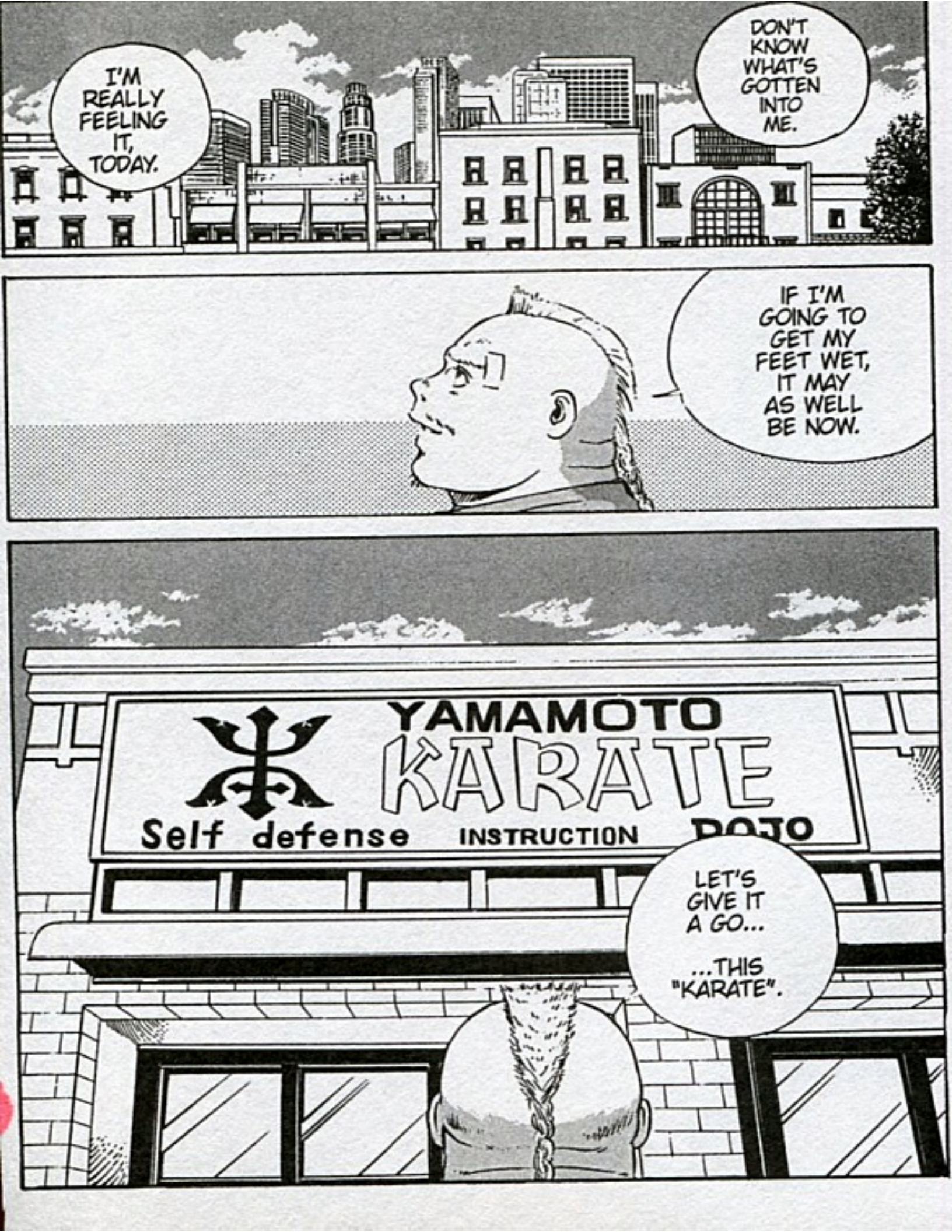

ugyaaa!
T--
TERRY!


plink
ktok
I WAS GETTING THROUGH TO THE MAN IN-SIDE!
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO KILL HIM!
I WASN'T ABOUT TO MISS.
WHY?
!?
hnx-uhnn-

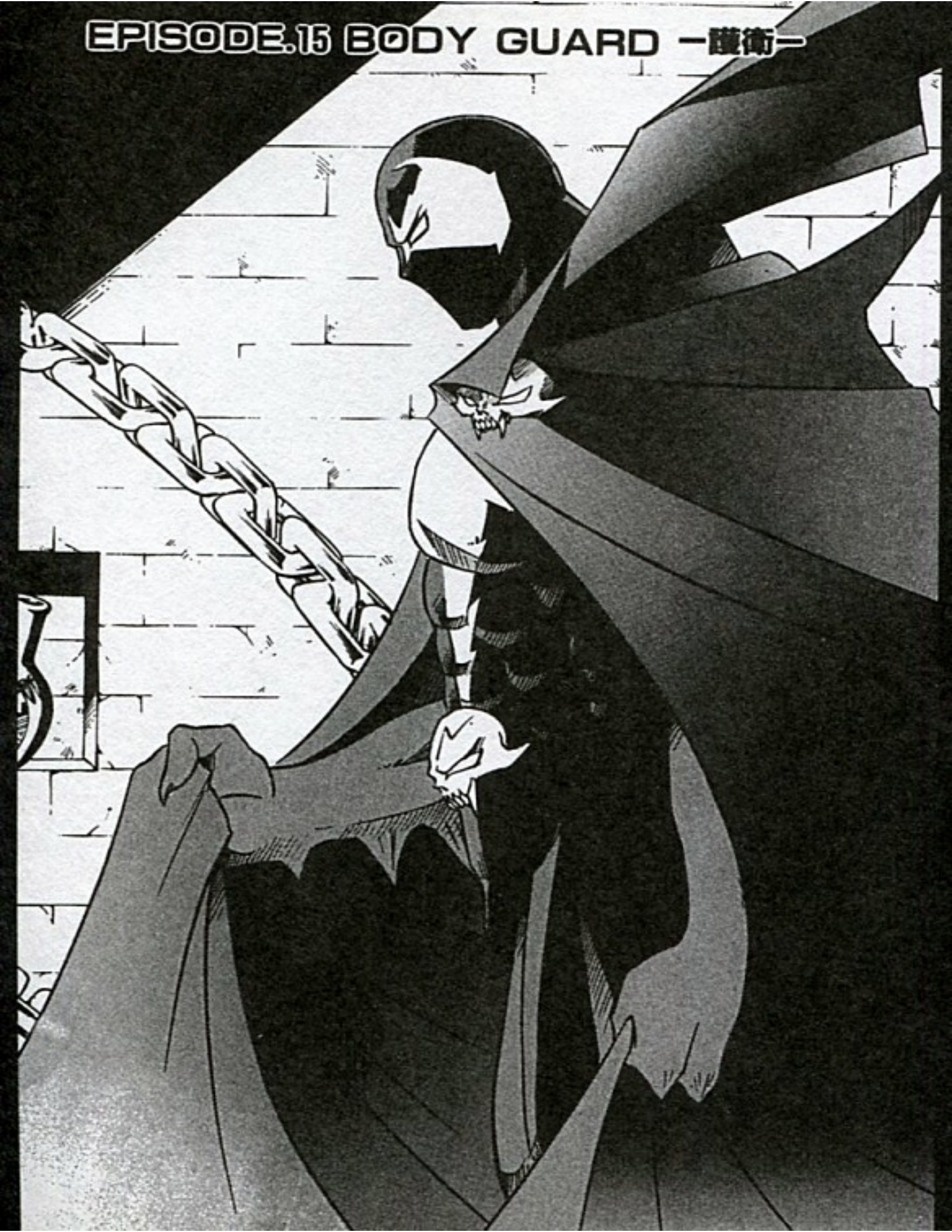
UmmNh...
EEP!
TERRY! YOU-- YOU'RE ALIVE!
...WHERE AM I?
WHERE...
TERRY?
HeEEEelp!
W-WAIT! TERRY! IT'S ME!
Y-Y-YOU DEMON!
G-G-GET AWAY!

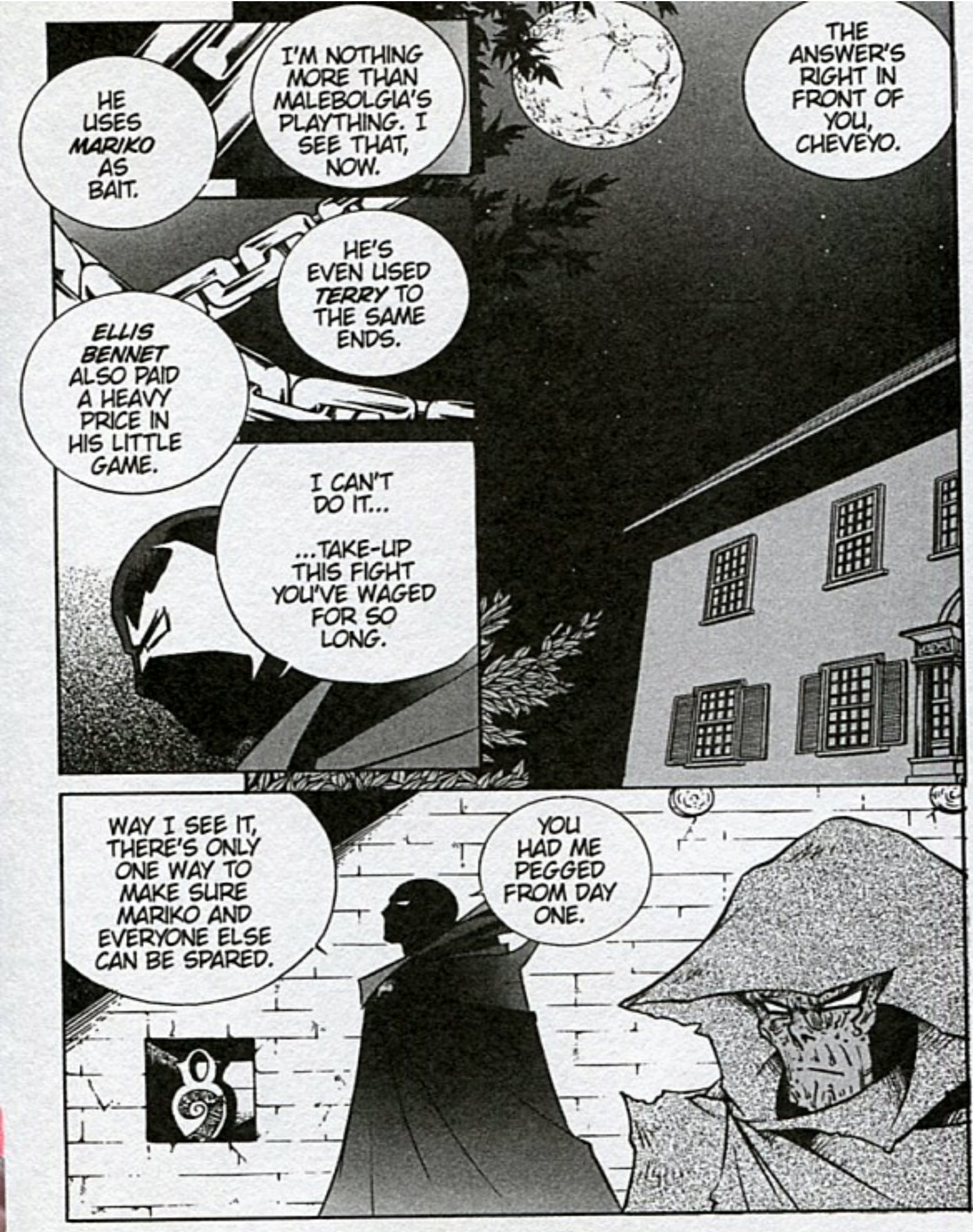
WHAT THE HELL JUST HAPPENED? I THOUGHT YOU KILLED HIM!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU I HAD NO INTENTION OF MISSING?
TERRY.
AieeEEEE!
ONE WAS THE PROPERTY OF SEPARATING AN UNWILLING SPIRIT FROM WHAT WE NOW KNOW AS PSYCHOPLASM. THE REAL TERRY WAS IN NO REAL DANGER.
THE COCOPELI LEARNED EARLY ON THAT SILVER HAD SOME VERY INTERESTING EFFECTS ON BEINGS OF THE SPIRITUAL TYPE.
BECAUSE WHAT SAVED TERRY THIS EVE...
WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST LET ME IN ON THIS TO BEGIN WITH?!
WH--
UH?
...WASN'T JUST THE SILVER BULLET.

BY THE CEME-TARY!
I'M TELLIN' YOU, BOSS!
GO AWAY, TERRY. THIS LIFE ISN'T FOR GUYS LIKE YOU.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME, SIR. I'VE GOT NOTHING.
REALLY...
WHAT IS IT THIS TIME? FAERIES? MONSTERS?
WHAT?!
IF YOU GAVE ME ANOTHER COMIC BOOK STORY!
IF I RECALL, I SAID I'D KILL YOU
...SIR.
YOU'RE RIGHT...
COULDN'T BE...
...MUST'VE BEEN DREAMING AGAIN...
K...K... WHY DO I FEEL LIKE I'VE SPOKEN TO HIM RECENTLY?
-SIGH- THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT K.K. SAID TO ME.
NOT FOR GUYS LIKE ME.

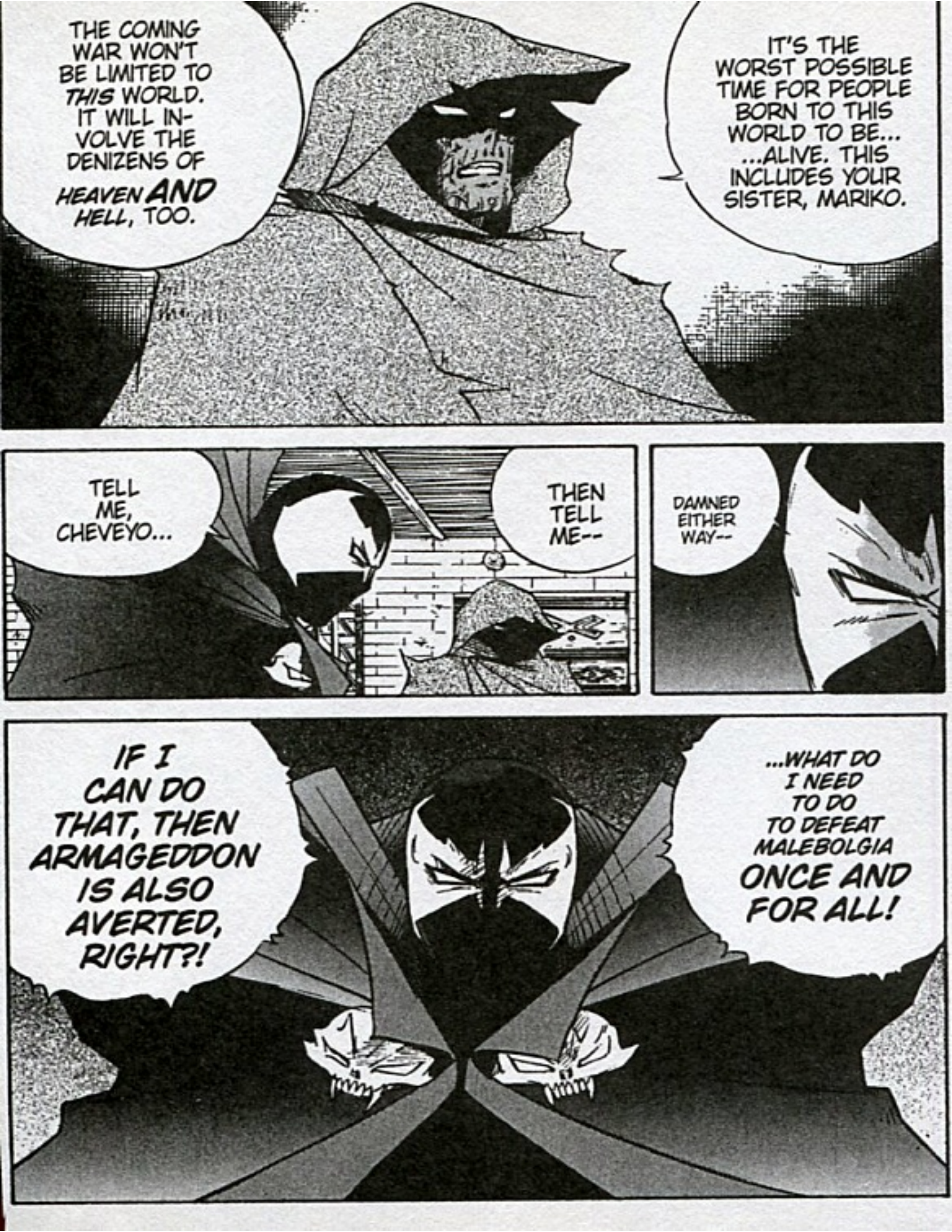

I'M REALLY FEELING IT, TODAY.
DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO ME.
IF I'M GOING TO GET MY FEET WET, IT MAY AS WELL BE NOW.
YAMAMOTO
KARATE
Self defense INSTRUCTION DOJO
LET'S GIVE IT A GO...
...THIS "KARATE".

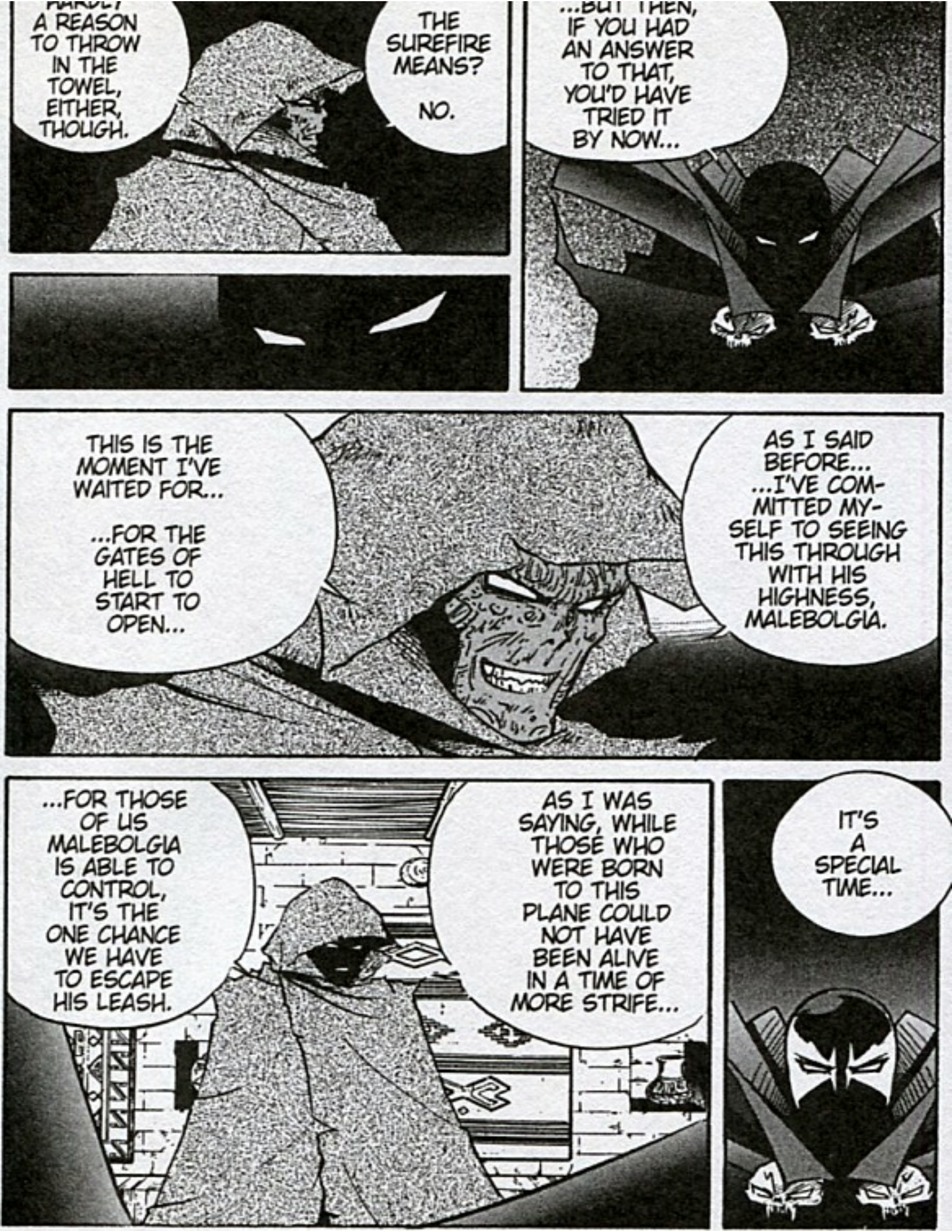
EPISODE.15 BODY GUARD －護衛－




HE USES *MARIKO* AS BAIT.
I'M NOTHING MORE THAN MALEBOLGIA'S PLAYTHING. I SEE THAT, NOW.
THE ANSWER'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU, CHEVEYO.
HE'S EVEN USED *TERRY* TO THE SAME ENDS.
ELLIS BENNET ALSO PAID A HEAVY PRICE IN HIS LITTLE GAME.
I CAN'T DO IT...
...TAKE-UP THIS FIGHT YOU'VE WAGED FOR SO LONG.
WAY I SEE IT, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO MAKE SURE MARIKO AND EVERYONE ELSE CAN BE SPARED.
YOU HAD ME PEGGED FROM DAY ONE.

IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO ENSURE HER WELL-BEING ONCE AND FOR ALL.
AND THAT'S FOR ME TO DIS-APPEAR FOREVER.
IN A WORD, NO. THE TIMING IS ABYSMAL.
...THERE'D BE NO MORE SPORT IN TORMENTING MARIKO. AREN'T I RIGHT, CHEVEYO?
IF I WERE TO OFF MYSELF...
...RUSH BACK TO HELL LIKE A GOOD LITTLE DEVIL-BOY...
"THAT TIME" IS ARMAGEDDON. THE END OF THE WORLD... ...A WORLD MARIKO IS VERY MUCH A PART OF.
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU "THAT TIME" IS NEAR?
TIMING? ?


THE COMING WAR WON'T BE LIMITED TO *THIS* WORLD. IT WILL INVOLVE THE DENIZENS OF *HEAVEN* **AND** *HELL*, TOO.
IT'S THE WORST POSSIBLE TIME FOR PEOPLE BORN TO THIS WORLD TO BE... ...ALIVE. THIS INCLUDES YOUR SISTER, MARIKO.
TELL ME, CHEVEYO...
THEN TELL ME--
DAMNED EITHER WAY--
IF I CAN DO THAT, THEN ARMAGEDDON IS ALSO AVERTED, RIGHT?!
...WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO DEFEAT MALEBOLGIA **ONCE AND FOR ALL!**

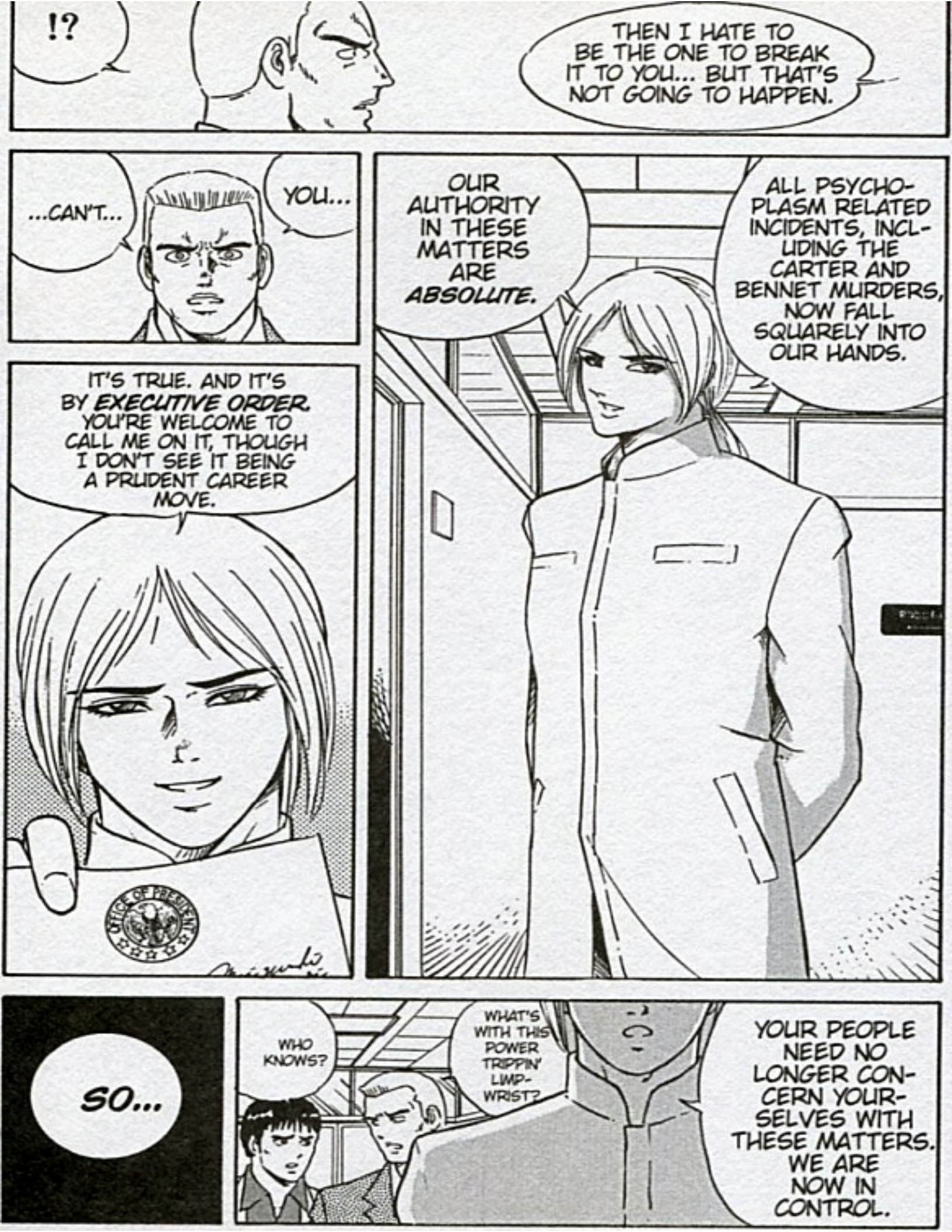

A REASON TO THROW IN THE TOWEL, EITHER, THOUGH.
THE SUREFIRE MEANS?
NO.
...BUT THEN, IF YOU HAD AN ANSWER TO THAT, YOU'D HAVE TRIED IT BY NOW...
THIS IS THE MOMENT I'VE WAITED FOR...
...FOR THE GATES OF HELL TO START TO OPEN...
AS I SAID BEFORE... ...I'VE COMMITTED MYSELF TO SEEING THIS THROUGH WITH HIS HIGHNESS, MALEBOLGIA.
...FOR THOSE OF US MALEBOLGIA IS ABLE TO CONTROL, IT'S THE ONE CHANCE WE HAVE TO ESCAPE HIS LEASH.
AS I WAS SAYING, WHILE THOSE WHO WERE BORN TO THIS PLANE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN ALIVE IN A TIME OF MORE STRIFE...
IT'S A SPECIAL TIME...

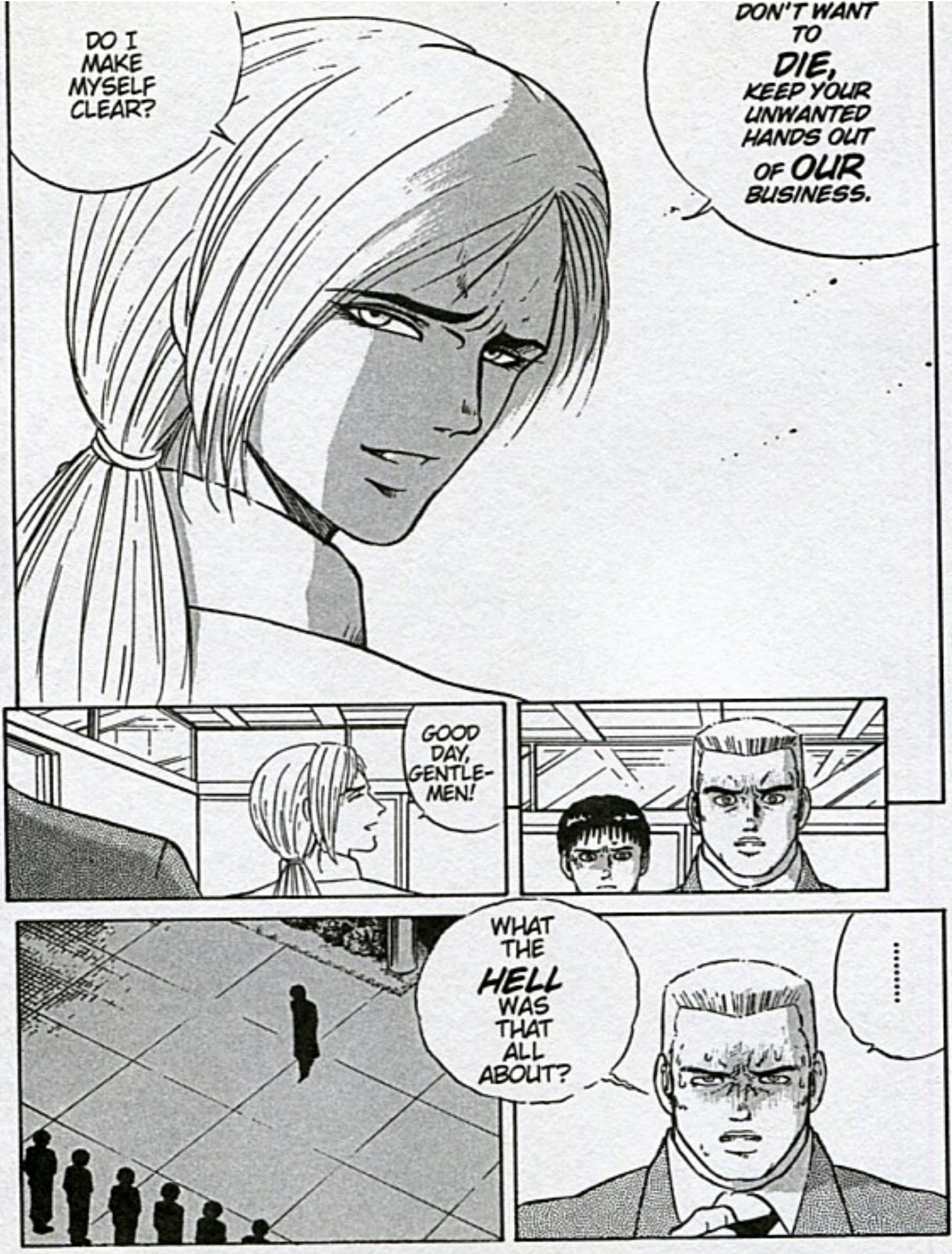
IF YOU CAN ELUDE THE DEVIL AT THIS JUNCTURE, YOU'LL BECOME THE SHADOW OF SPAWN. YOU'LL BE ABLE TO DART IN THE SHADOWS WHERE EVEN MALEBOLGIA CANNOT SEE!
THAT SAID, YOU MAY HAVE BEEN BORN AT THE PERFECT TIME FOR THIS MOMENT.

WE'RE THE ONES DOING ALL THE WORK. GATHERING ALL THE EVIDENCE. LET THEM CRY US A RIVER IF THEY WANT.
HMPH! SCREW' EM.
THEY TOOK OVER THE HAROLD CARTER HOMICIDE... SO IT'S UNLIKELY THEY'LL LEAVE THIS ONE IN OUR HANDS.

THE C.I.A. CLAIMS JURIS-DICTION.

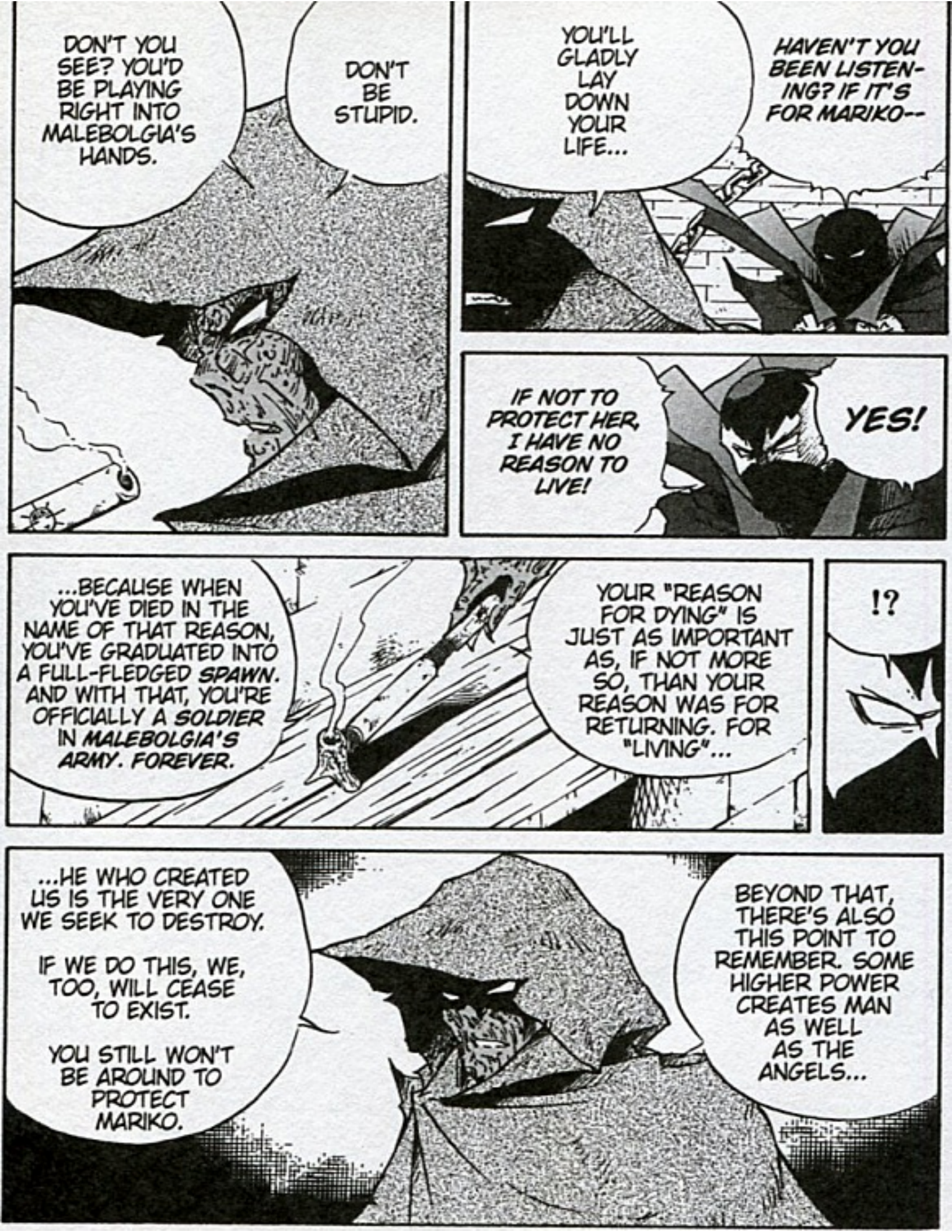
...WE'RE GOING TO GET THE COLLAR!
THE ELLIS BENNET MURDER IS OUR CASE. WE GOT THE MANIAC'S DESCRIPTION...
WHITE
BLACK


!?
THEN I HATE TO BE THE ONE TO BREAK IT TO YOU... BUT THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN.
...CAN'T...
YOU...
OUR AUTHORITY IN THESE MATTERS ARE ABSOLUTE.
ALL PSYCHO-PLASM RELATED INCIDENTS, INCL-UDING THE CARTER AND BENNET MURDERS, NOW FALL SQUARELY INTO OUR HANDS.
IT'S TRUE. AND IT'S BY EXECUTIVE ORDER. YOU'RE WELCOME TO CALL ME ON IT, THOUGH I DON'T SEE IT BEING A PRUDENT CAREER MOVE.
SO...
WHO KNOWS?
WHAT'S WITH THIS POWER TRIPPIN' LIMP-WRIST?
YOUR PEOPLE NEED NO LONGER CON-CERN YOUR-SELVES WITH THESE MATTERS. WE ARE NOW IN CONTROL.

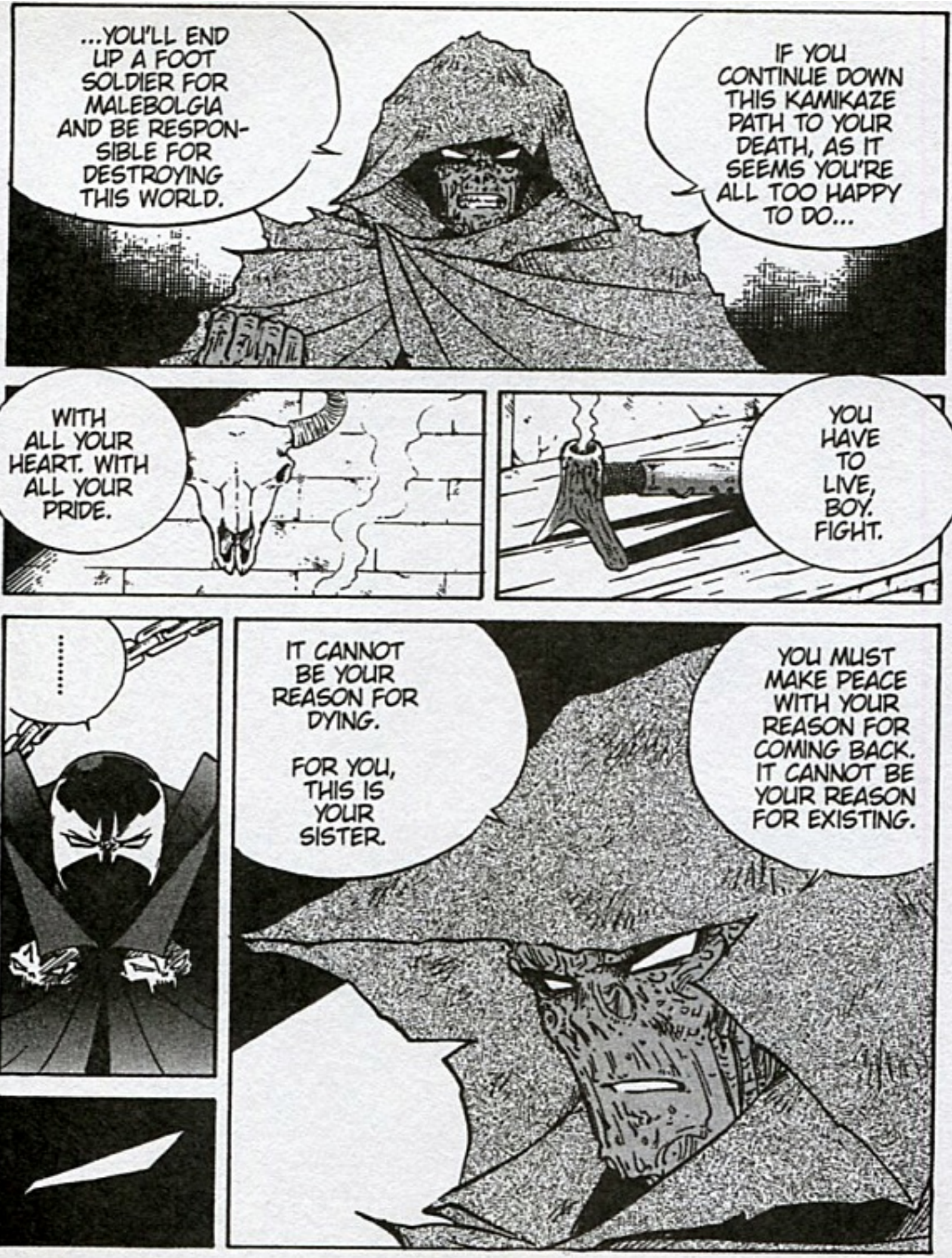

DO I MAKE MYSELF CLEAR?
DON'T WANT TO DIE, KEEP YOUR UNWANTED HANDS OUT OF OUR BUSINESS.
GOOD DAY, GENTLE-MEN!
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
.....

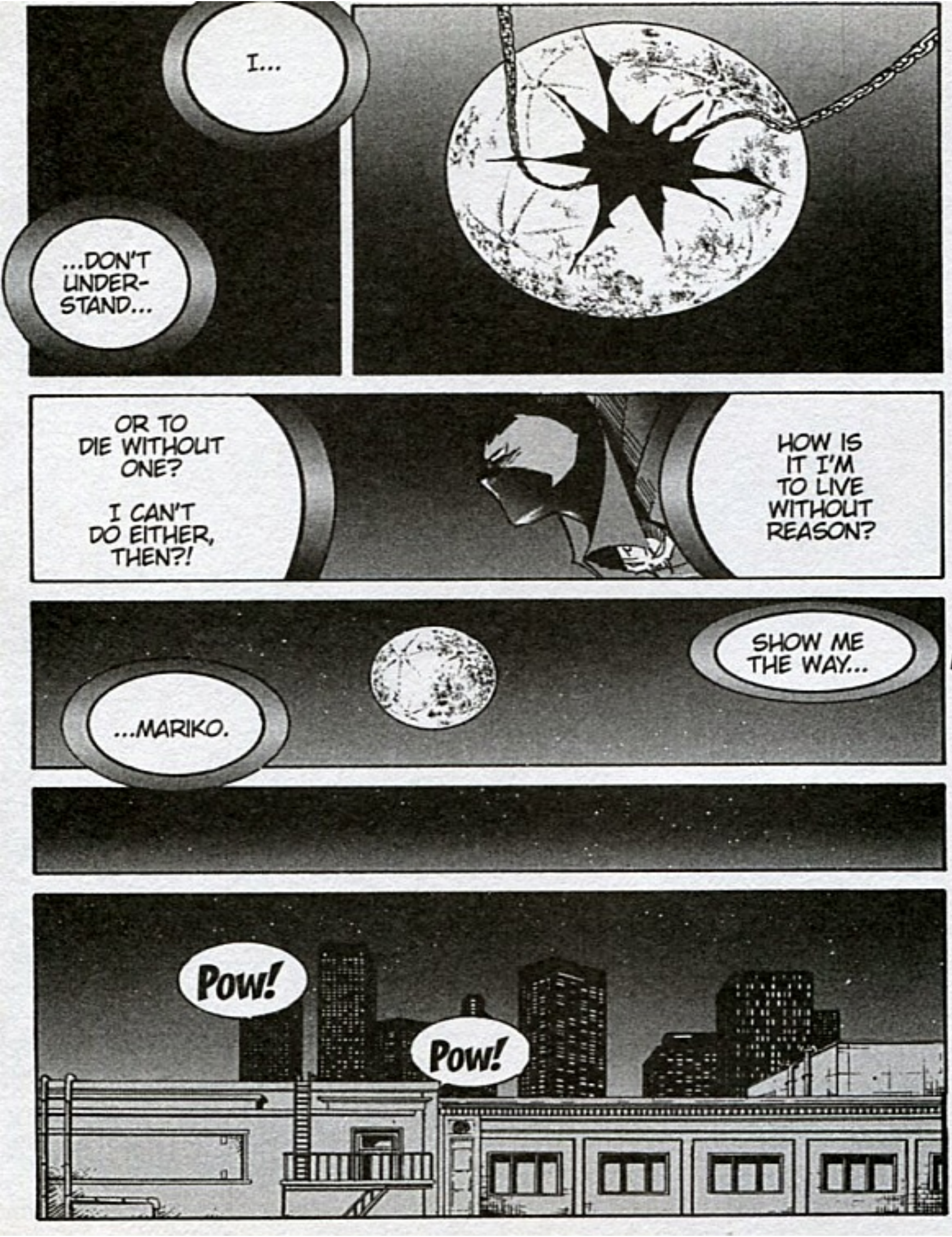
DILIGENCE AT ALL TIMES, UNLESS YOU FEEL LIKE DYING.
THANKS TO THE ARMY'S LITTLE "MISCALCULATION," THIS ENTIRE CITY HAS BECOME A PSYCHOPLASM-SATURATED ZONE. WE'VE BEEN CALLED IN TO CHANGE THIS.
WHETHER IT WAS ONCE ANIMAL, OR IF IT WAS ONCE HUMAN, YOU ARE TO TERMINATE YOUR TARGETS WITH EXTREME PREJUDCIE.
THE PSYCHOPLASM CONTAMINATION WILL ANIMATE BOTH THE LIVING AS WELL AS THE DEAD. YOU ARE TO MAKE NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE TWO.
YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS!
THIS SANITIZATION OPERATION IS NOW OFFICIALLY UNDERWAY!

A WAY TO DEFEAT MALEBOLGIA!
SO...
...SO YOU'RE SAYING THERE IS A WAY!
READY?
IT'S NOT A QUESTION OF WHAT "IT" IS...
...RATHER, ARE YOU, YOURSELF READY?
WELL? WHAT IS IT?!
AND EVEN THEN, I CAN'T BE SURE IT'S THE RIGHT WAY.
IN THE 500 YEARS I'VE TAKEN-UP THIS CAUSE, I'VE SEEN ONLY ONE WAY.
NO MATTER HOW I'VE TRIED TO PARSE IT, IT WILL REQUIRE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE--
THE BATTLE TO DEFEAT MALEBOLGIA WILL TAKE EVERY OUNCE OF YOUR BEING. I MEAN THAT QUITE LITERALLY.

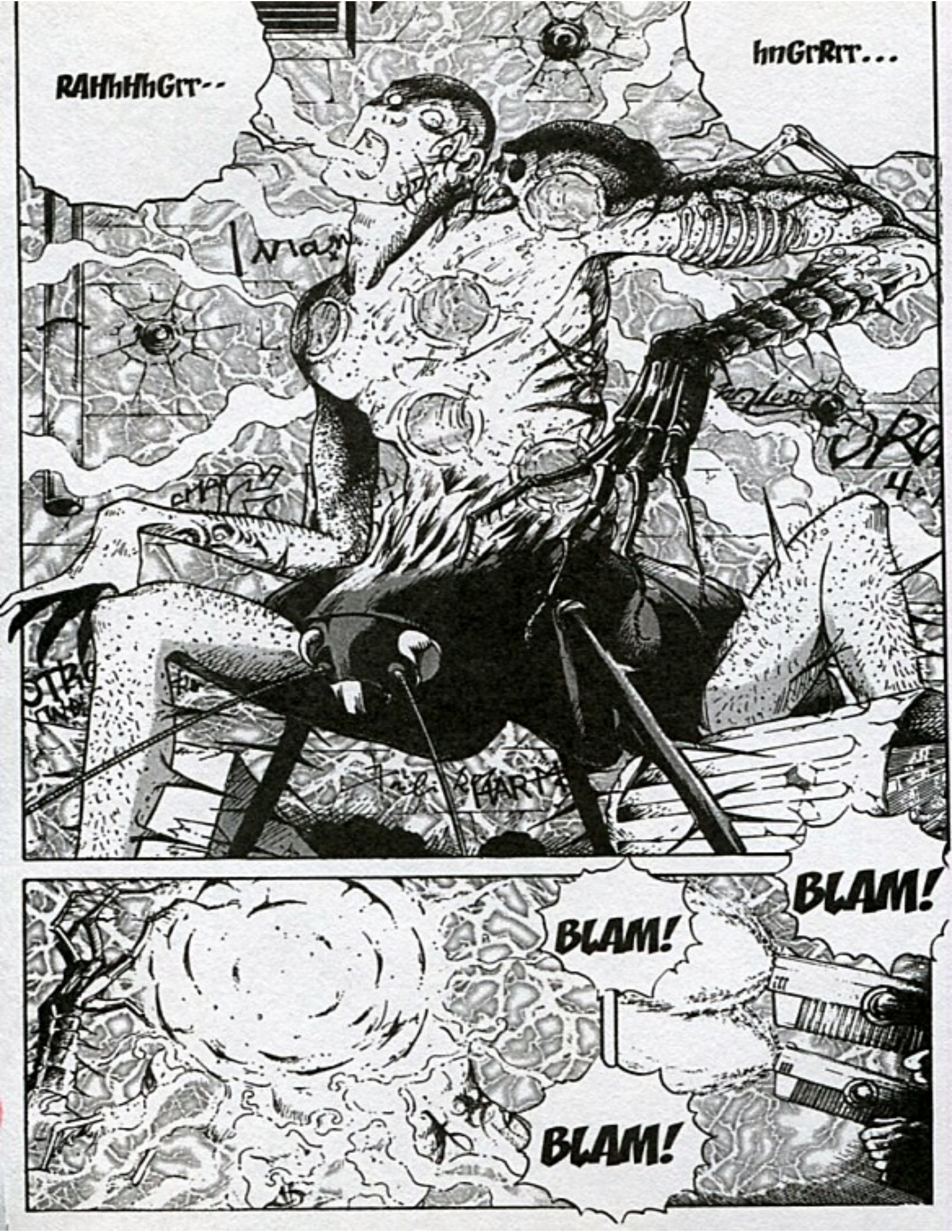

DON'T YOU SEE? YOU'D BE PLAYING RIGHT INTO MALEBOLGIA'S HANDS.
DON'T BE STUPID.
YOU'LL GLADLY LAY DOWN YOUR LIFE...
HAVEN'T YOU BEEN LISTENING? IF IT'S FOR MARIKO--
IF NOT TO PROTECT HER, I HAVE NO REASON TO LIVE!
YES!
...BECAUSE WHEN YOU'VE DIED IN THE NAME OF THAT REASON, YOU'VE GRADUATED INTO A FULL-FLEDGED SPAWN. AND WITH THAT, YOU'RE OFFICIALLY A SOLDIER IN MALEBOLGIA'S ARMY. FOREVER.
YOUR "REASON FOR DYING" IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS, IF NOT MORE SO, THAN YOUR REASON WAS FOR RETURNING. FOR "LIVING"...
!?
...HE WHO CREATED US IS THE VERY ONE WE SEEK TO DESTROY.
IF WE DO THIS, WE, TOO, WILL CEASE TO EXIST.
YOU STILL WON'T BE AROUND TO PROTECT MARIKO.
BEYOND THAT, THERE'S ALSO THIS POINT TO REMEMBER. SOME HIGHER POWER CREATES MAN AS WELL AS THE ANGELS...

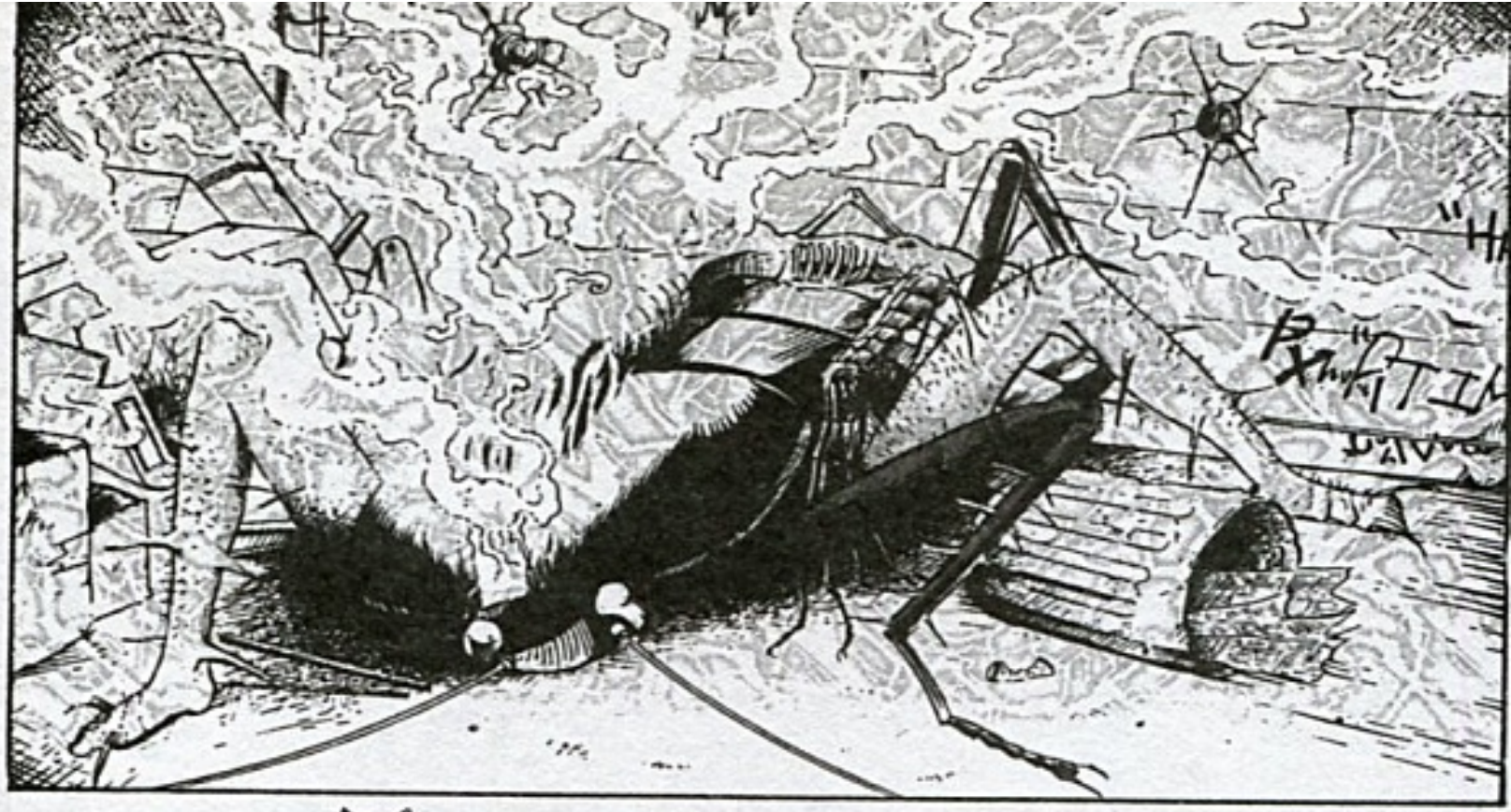
DON'T YOU GET IT?
SO BLIND TO THE OBVIOUS.
...WHAT'LL WE DO?
THEN...
EVERY WAKING MOMENT SHOULD BE DEDICATED TO ONE THING.
SURVIVAL!
YOU MUST SURVIVE AND KEEP FIGHTING HIM!
YOU LIVE!!!
YOU PUT EVERY LAST SHRED OF YOUR EXISTENCE INTO MAKING SURE YOU LIVE TO FIGHT TOMORROW, AND THE DAY AFTER THAT, AND LONGER, STILL!
THE STRAYS OUT IN THE ALLEYS KNOW THIS, AND YOU STILL DON'T GET IT! GO OUT THERE AND LEARN THIS LESSON FROM THEM!


...YOU'LL END UP A FOOT SOLDIER FOR MALEBOLGIA AND BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DESTROYING THIS WORLD.
IF YOU CONTINUE DOWN THIS KAMIKAZE PATH TO YOUR DEATH, AS IT SEEMS YOU'RE ALL TOO HAPPY TO DO...
WITH ALL YOUR HEART. WITH ALL YOUR PRIDE.
YOU HAVE TO LIVE, BOY. FIGHT.
.....
IT CANNOT BE YOUR REASON FOR DYING.
FOR YOU, THIS IS YOUR SISTER.
YOU MUST MAKE PEACE WITH YOUR REASON FOR COMING BACK. IT CANNOT BE YOUR REASON FOR EXISTING.


I...
...DON'T UNDER-STAND...
OR TO DIE WITHOUT ONE?
I CAN'T DO EITHER, THEN?!
HOW IS IT I'M TO LIVE WITHOUT REASON?
SHOW ME THE WAY...
...MARIKO.
Pow!
Pow!

MAYBE THERE WAS AN ACCIDENT?
THIS ISN'T A ROAD THAT SHOULD HAVE SO MUCH TRAFFIC AT THIS HOUR.
THIS IS STRANGE.
AWFULLY HEAVILY ARMED, AREN'T THEY?
THEY LOOK LIKE SOLDIERS.
TAKE A LOOK, THERE. SIR.
AGH!
FIRE!
Blam!
Blam!
Blam!
Pow! Pow!
Blam!
I WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THE WAY...


RAHhHhGrr--
hnGrRrr...
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!



SENSORS ARE GOING WILD!
STAY ALERT!
KEEP LOOK-ING!
FIND THEM ALL!

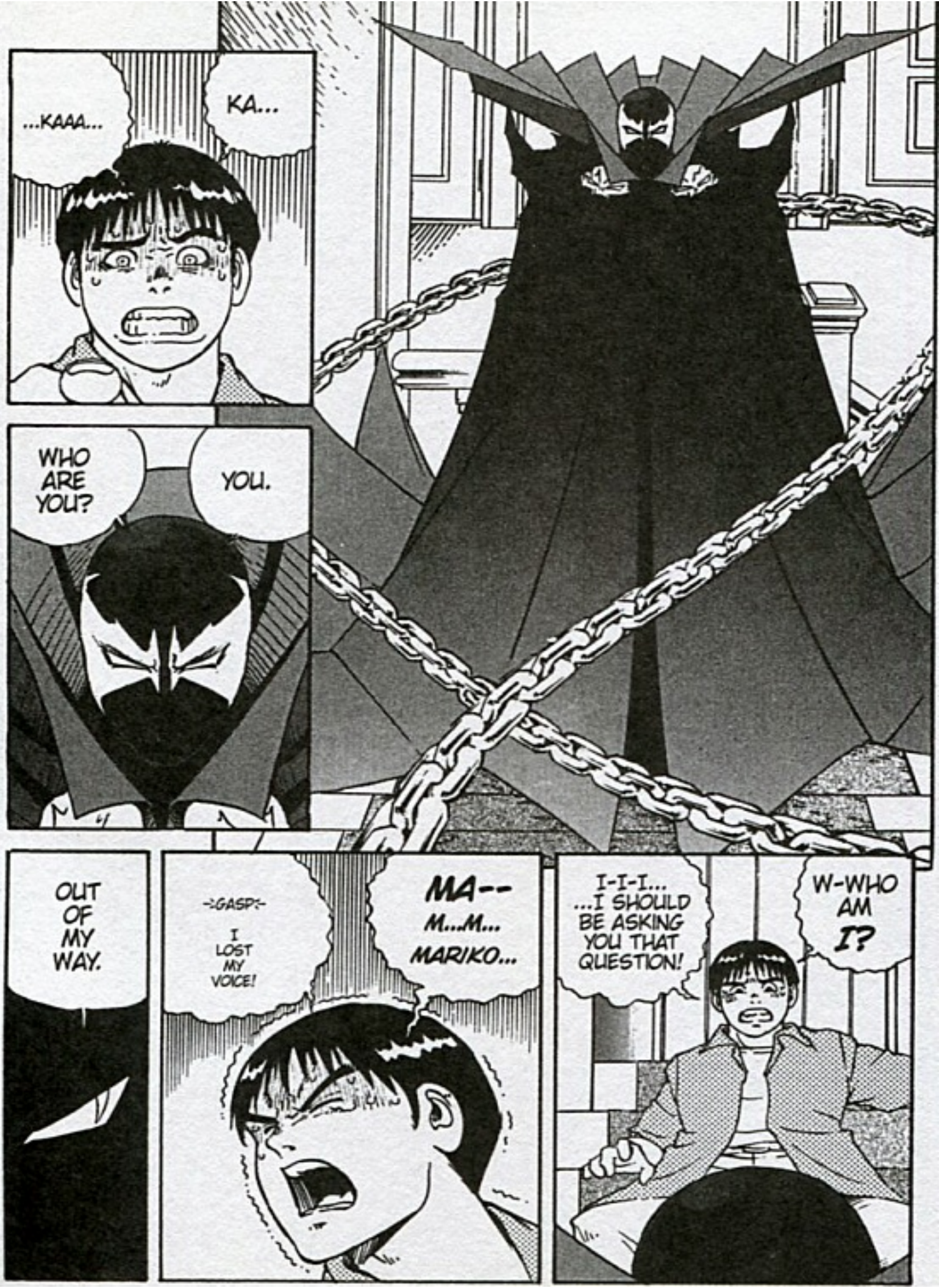
THEY GET HOPPED-UP, HAVE THEIR HALLUCINATIONS, THEN BECOME THOSE HALLUCINATIONS. NASTY.
MAN. THESE JUNKIES MU-TATIONS ARE THE WORST, BY FAR.

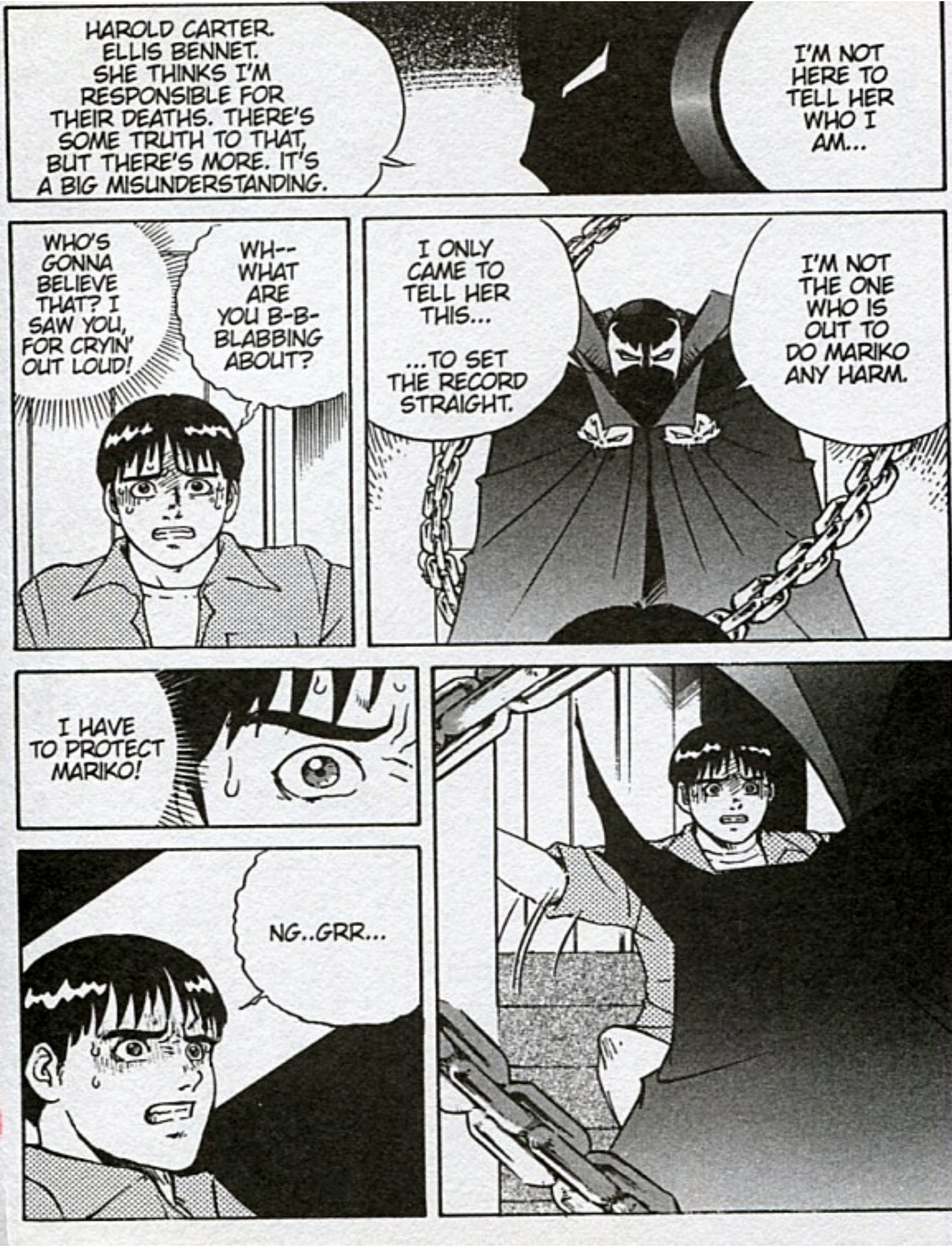
MY HUSBAND SEEMS TO BE RUNNING LATE.
HE SAID HE'D COME HOME EARLY TODAY, TOO.

...HAS SHE ALREADY GONE TO SLEEP?
MARIKO...
IF YOU DON'T MIND. TWO WOMEN ALONE IS JUST UN-SAFE...
SHALL I STICK AROUND FOR A WHILE LONGER?
YES... HER EMOTIONAL HEALTH IS AS IMPORTANT AS ANYTHING ELSE.
IT'S GOOD TO SEE HER IN GOOD SPIRITS AND ABLE TO SLIDE RIGHT BACK INTO WORK.
YES. SHE SAID SHE HAD AN EARLY START TOMOR-ROW.
BEST OF LUCK!
IT'S NOT LIKE HIM TO BE THIS OFF IN HIS TIMING. I'M GOING TO THE DOJO TO SEE IF HE'S STILL THERE.
IN THE MEANTIME, I LEAVE MARIKO'S SAFETY IN YOUR HANDS.
?
WHY DIDN'T SHE JUST USE THE PHONE?
B... BEST OF LUCK?

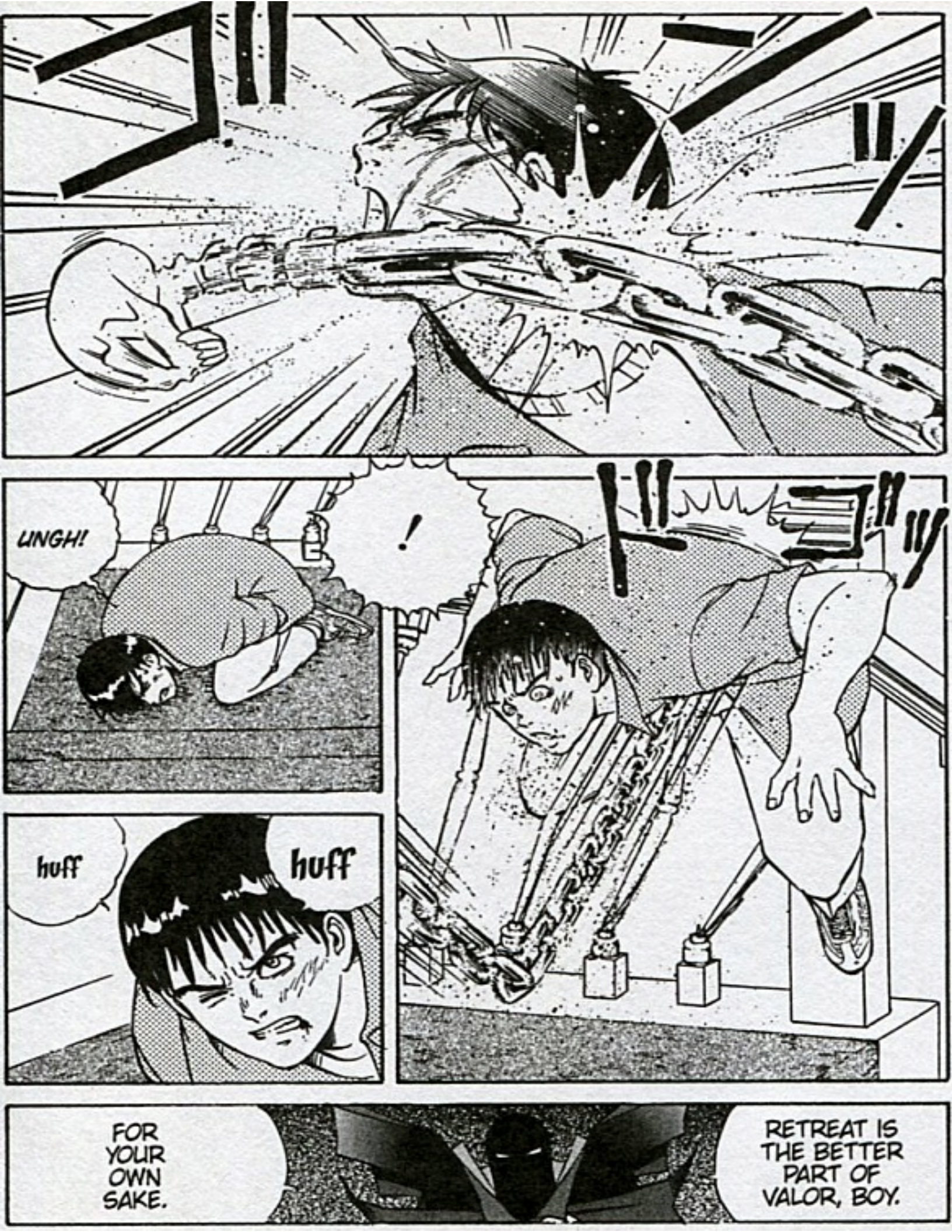
LEAVING ME AND MARIKO ALONE... ...IN AN EMPTY HOUSE--
IS THAT EVEN RIGHT?
A SOLEMN RESPON-SIBILITY!
NO! I HAVE A JOB TO DO, HERE.
...I'M MARIKO'S BODYGUARD!
FOR NOW...
JUST IN CASE THERE'S TROUBLE...
...I SHOULD PROBABLY BE CLOSE, RIGHT?
...SINCE I'M TO PROTECT HER...
STILL...

SECOND FLOOR, ALL CLEAR!
BACK HALL, NOTHING UNUSUAL!
HALLWAY, CLEAR!
OFFICIAL FINGER CONFIRM-ATION!
NNNNN...
...NO... NOTH-- NOTHI--
FIRST FLOOR..
Clink


...KAAA...
KA...
WHO ARE YOU?
YOU.
OUT OF MY WAY.
-:GASP:-
I LOST MY VOICE!
MA--
M...M...
MARIKO...
I-I-I...
...I SHOULD BE ASKING YOU THAT QUESTION!
W-WHO AM I?


HAROLD CARTER. ELLIS BENNET. SHE THINKS I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR DEATHS. THERE'S SOME TRUTH TO THAT, BUT THERE'S MORE. IT'S A BIG MISUNDERSTANDING.
I'M NOT HERE TO TELL HER WHO I AM...
WHO'S GONNA BELIEVE THAT? I SAW YOU, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD!
WH-- WHAT ARE YOU B-B-BLABBING ABOUT?
I ONLY CAME TO TELL HER THIS...
...TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT.
I'M NOT THE ONE WHO IS OUT TO DO MARIKO ANY HARM.
I HAVE TO PROTECT MARIKO!
NG..GRR...

RRAH!
!?
キヤツ
Brack!
BEST JUST RETREAT, LITTLE BOY. FOR YOUR OWN SAKE.
CH!
OW.
OW OW OW


UNGH!
!
huff
huff
FOR YOUR OWN SAKE.
RETREAT IS THE BETTER PART OF VALOR, BOY.

HNN

THIS, COMING FROM A BOY TALKING FROM THE FLOOR? BIG TALK.

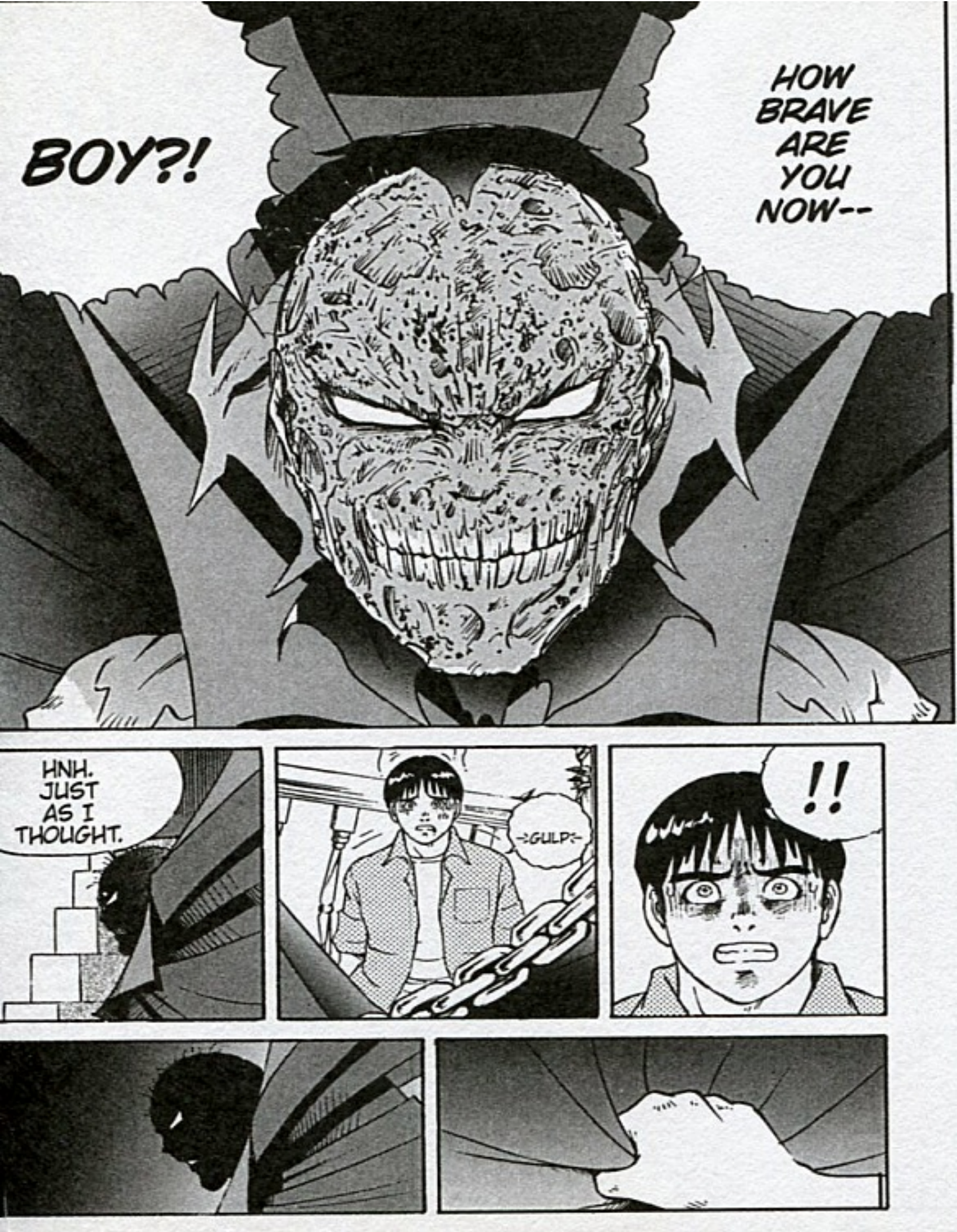
...WON'T LET YOU HARM MARIKO...
...I WON'T LET...

WAIT...

SOMETHING A WEAKLING LIKE YOURSELF MIGHT FIND A BIT SHOCKING.

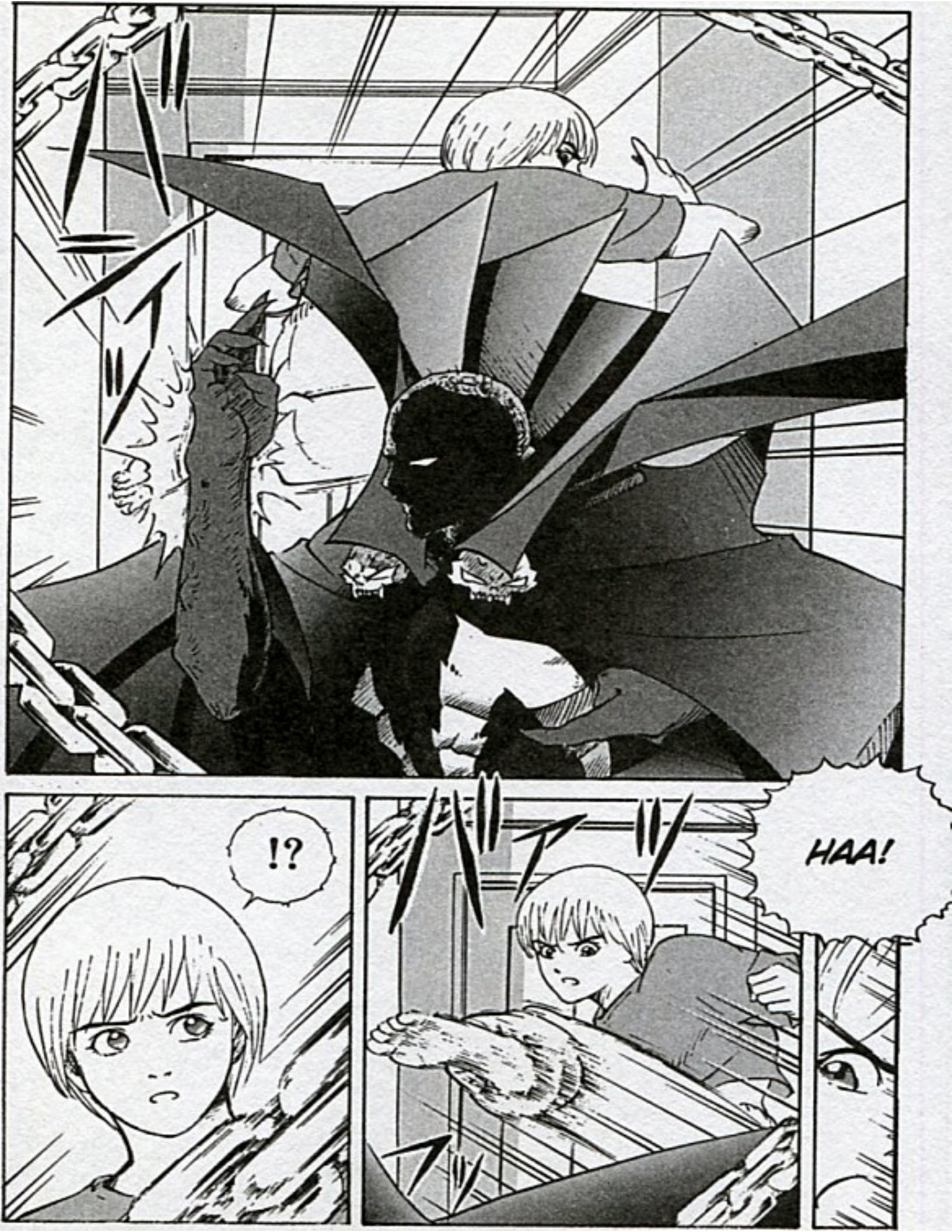
LET ME SHOW YOU A LIL' SOME-THING.

...TO DEAL WITH THE LIKES OF ME?
YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES...

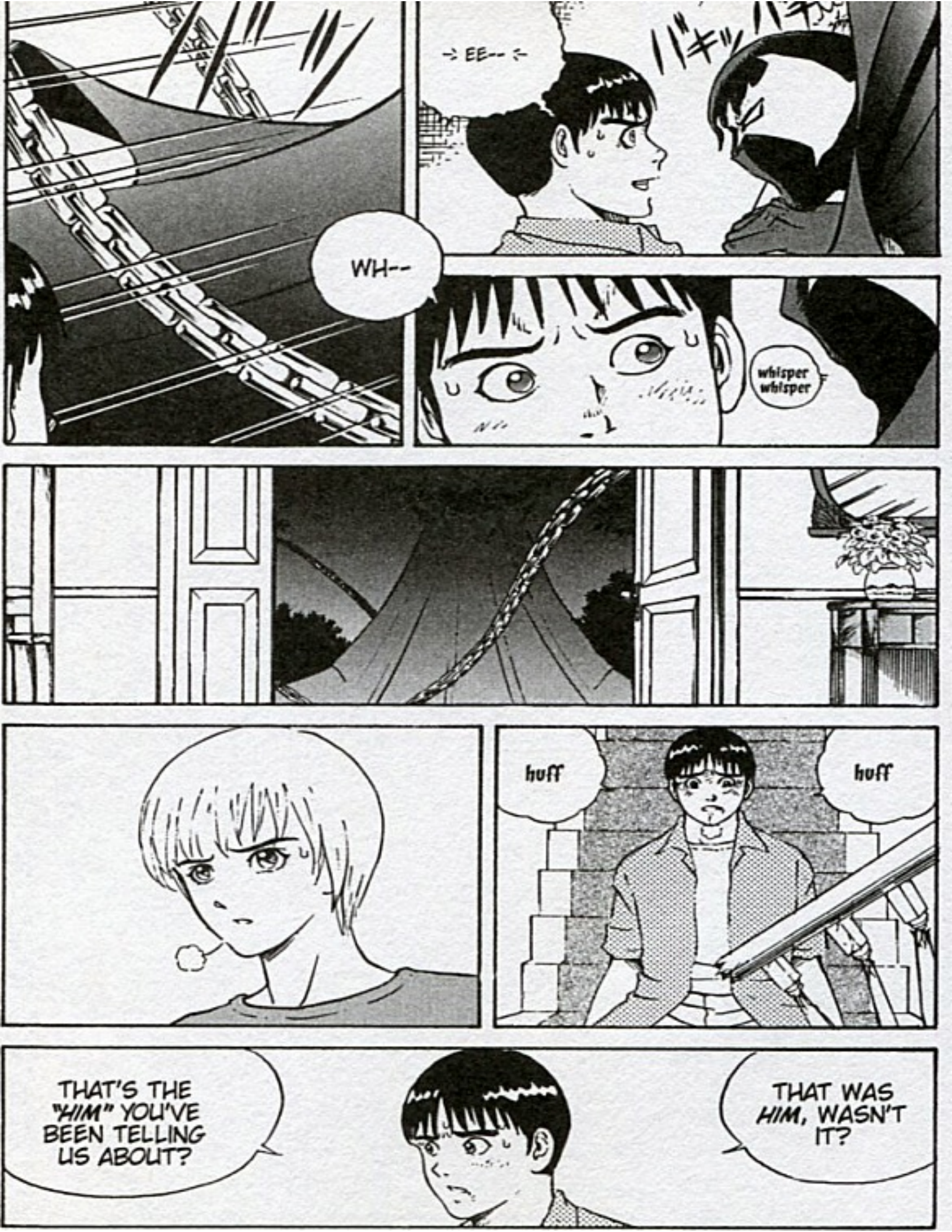

BOY?!
HOW BRAVE ARE YOU NOW--
HNH. JUST AS I THOUGHT.
-GULP-
!!

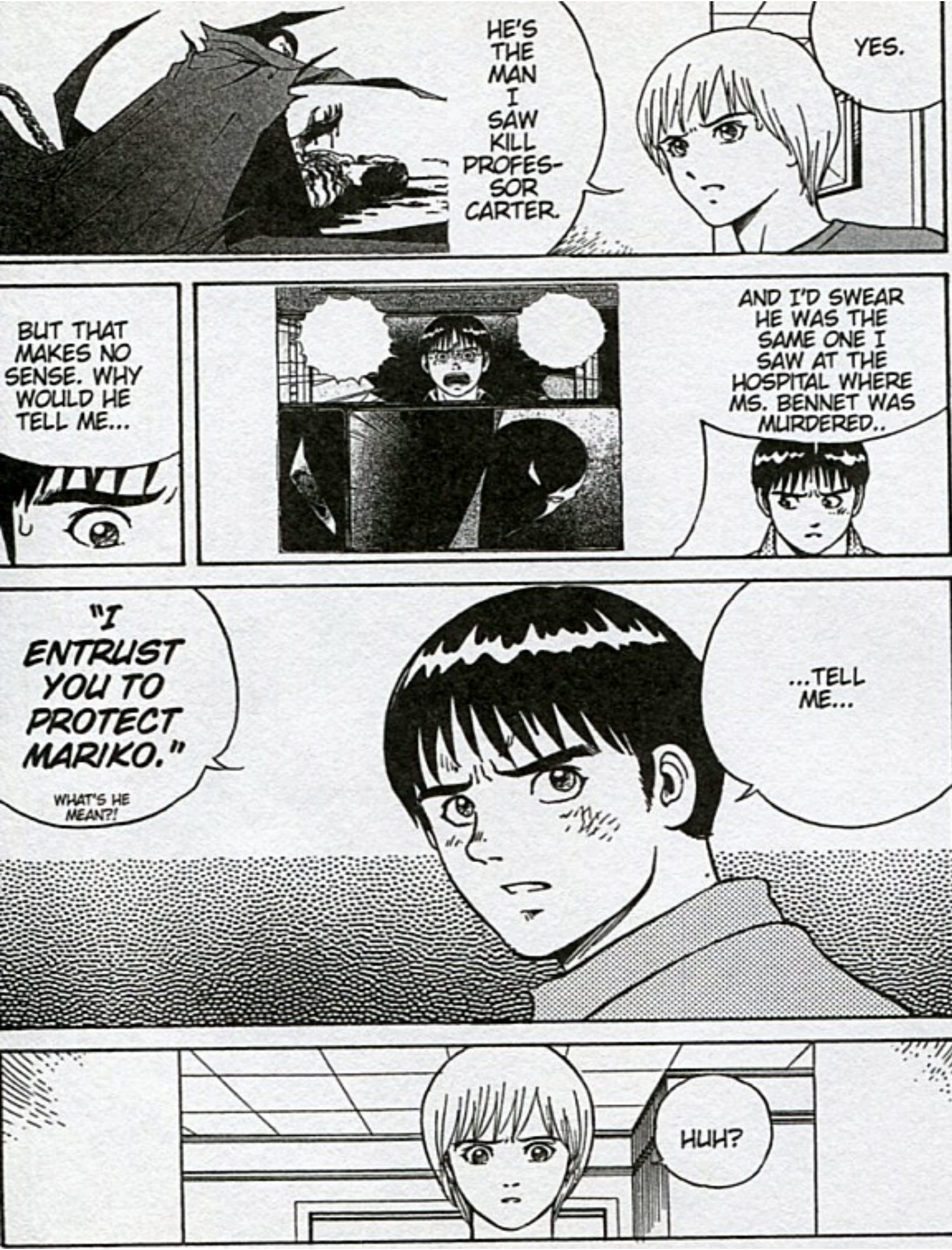
I...
...I'M HER PARTNER!
I...
...WON'T LET YOU NEAR MARIKO.
YOU?
.....
?
!
A--
WA--
EH?!

MARIKO!
M--
STEP AWAY FROM TOSHIO. NOW!
YOU'RE HERE FOR ME, RIGHT?
HURRY IT UP!
HYAAA!
DON'T COME NEAR--
NO, MARIKO!

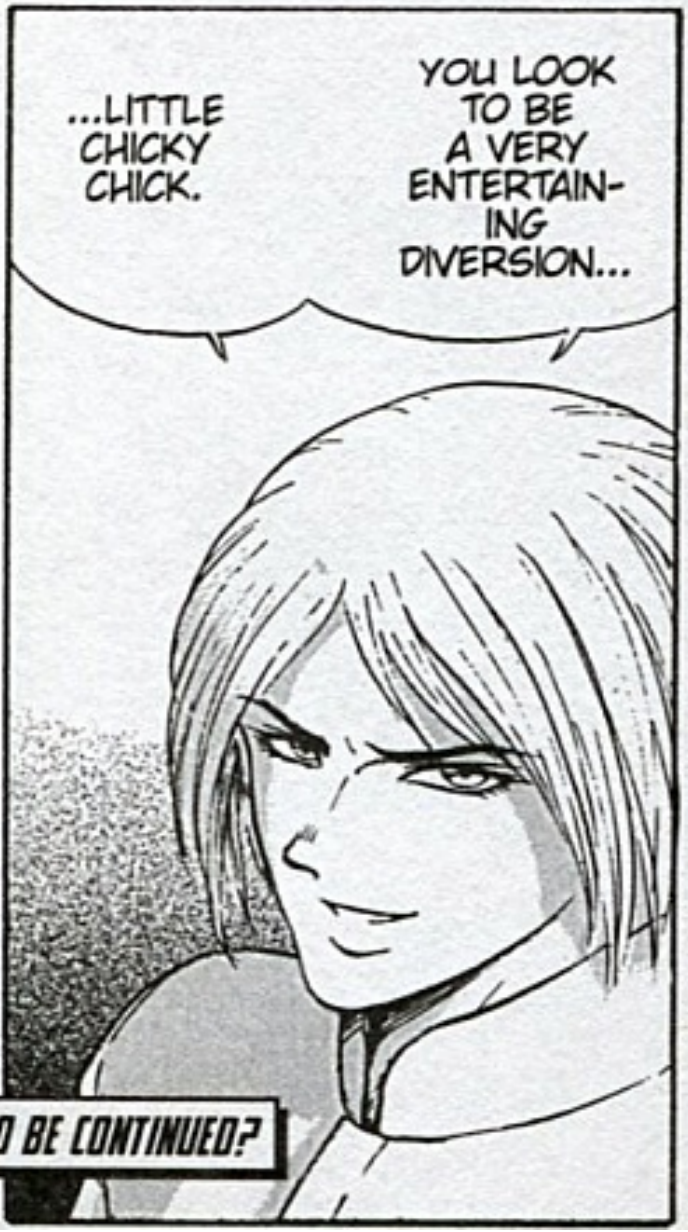

!?
HAA!

タ-ン
HMN?
RELAX. I'VE NO INTENTION OF A SECOND GO-AROUND.


WH--
-> EE-- <-
whisper whisper
huff
huff
THAT'S THE "HIM" YOU'VE BEEN TELLING US ABOUT?
THAT WAS HIM, WASN'T IT?


HE'S THE MAN I SAW KILL PROFES-SOR CARTER.
YES.
BUT THAT MAKES NO SENSE. WHY WOULD HE TELL ME...
AND I'D SWEAR HE WAS THE SAME ONE I SAW AT THE HOSPITAL WHERE MS. BENNET WAS MURDERED..
"I ENTRUST YOU TO PROTECT MARIKO."
WHAT'S HE MEAN?!
...TELL ME...
HUH?

...THAT'S "THE EXCEPTION."
SO...


...LITTLE CHICKY CHICK.
YOU LOOK TO BE A VERY ENTERTAIN-ING DIVERSION...
TO BE CONTINUED?

THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL A--
SHADOW OF SPAWN.

The following pages
contain a brief glimpse
into the reference
and research involved
in the creation
of:

SHADOWS OF SPAWN.

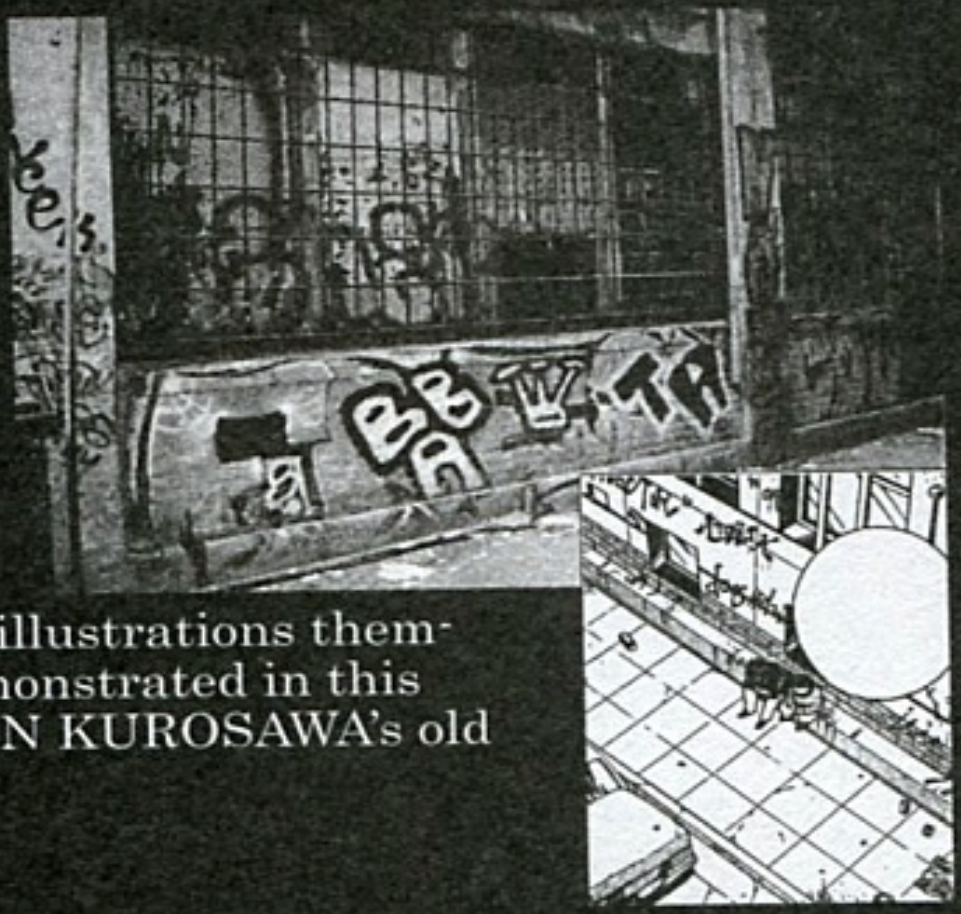
SPAWN FILE

COLLECTING DATA IN L.A.

While the original SPAWN story was set in the backdrop of New York, SHADOWS OF SPAWN adopted the city of Los Angeles as its venue.

To this end, several extensive reference excursions were made to help capture the visual sense of what is known around the world as the place where moviestars work and play.

Even roads less traveled by the otherwise adventurous tourist were not immune to the all-seeing camera lens. "Urban flavors" were graphically inserted into the manga illustrations themselves, as is demonstrated in this panel clip of KEN KUROSAWA's old hangout...



Here, an unexpected movie shoot of an old America gangbusters scene clearly shows how even modern day LA still closely reflects its architectural past...

...while other sections of the city plainly reflected the "inner city" which is ever-present in all major metropolises.

Graveyards. A paramount scene for all Spawns, as they begin to come to grips with their own deaths.

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) became a focal point for the non-supernatural cast of SHADOWS, as good cops did their best to make sense of a very unearthly situation.

Here, another instance of a real life structure being translated not only into another language...

...but into another medium, as well.

The creators of SHADOWS would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all those who extended a hospitality and candor beyond the call of duty for the production of this series.

Another shot of LA's finest, with a more personal touch with the community...

...in addition to military personnel kind enough to provide additional uniform reference.

Mr. Tokoro would like to take a moment to personally thank Jason Yamaguchi for providing an abundance of information as well as being the ever-patient guide.

STOP!

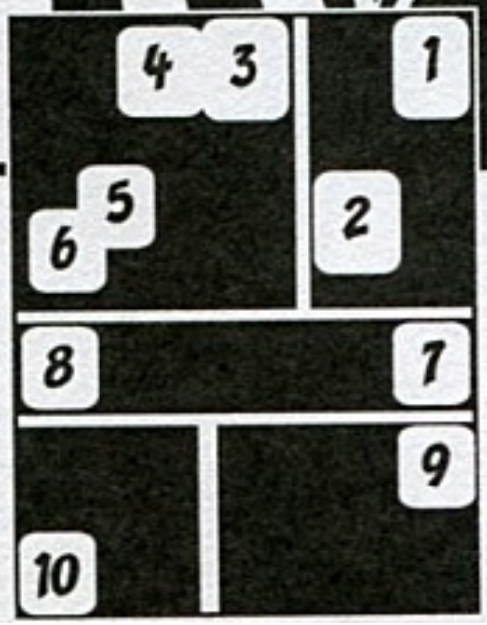
This is the BACK of the book!

UH-UH-UH! YOU'RE STARTING AT THE *END!* AND YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS BEFORE IT'S TIME, DO YA? THIS BOOK READS FROM RIGHT (THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS BOOK) TO LEFT, JUST AS THE CREATORS WANTED IT.

IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST TIME READING A MANGA, LOOK BELOW AND JUST FOLLOW THE SEQUENCE. IT'S REAL SIMPLE, AND MUCH MORE FUN. YOU KNOW UNCLE VIOLATOR'S WORD IS GOOD, RIGHT?

DIRECTIONS:

PAGES ARE VIEWED, RIGHT TO LEFT. PANEL LAYOUTS IN A REVERSE "Z" SEQUENCE.



PAGE DETAIL

MANGA
ACTION
USA $9.9
CAN $11.6

MANGA!!!

Ken Kurosawa (aka "Double K") is a street smart thug-for-hire. His sole purpose for fighting is to be able to afford care for his ailing sister, Mariko. When Ken is killed by a car bomb, his dying wish is to be at his sister's side for her birthday and to take care of her, always...

Seven years later, Ken returns to Earth as a Hell Spawn. Angry, confused and constantly taunted by the cryptic Clown and the faerie-like Beelzebub, he learns that there is much more to death than simply dying...and that promises can be twisted to belie their good intentions.

So begins one man's search to rediscover his identity while adapting to a host of new abilities given to him by a "lower power." The mysteries of death are only the beginning of something far more dangerous.

Forged by the darkness of Malebolgia, like the legions of Hell Spawn before him, Ken must untangle the web of lies and deceit if he's to survive life-after-death in the Shadows of Spawn!

Previously only available in Japan!

100% authentic MANGA!!

You've never seen SPAWN like this before! 200 pages of glorious manga! Done by famous Japanese manga master Juzo Tokoro! New Spawns! New and classic villains! What more could any Spawn or manga fan want!?!

TODD McFARLANE
PRODUCTIONS

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